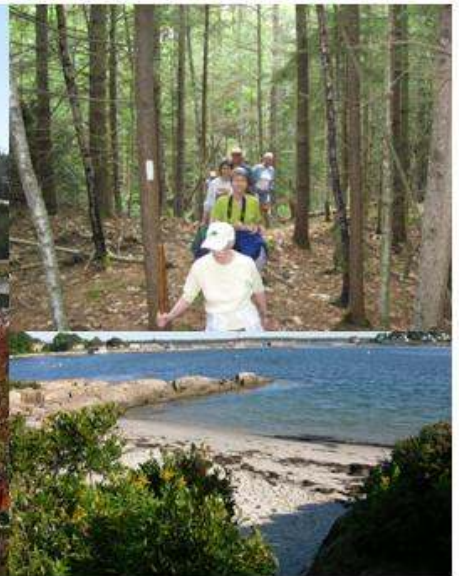


Harpswell

2008



Annual Town Report

Dedication

This Annual Town Report is dedicated to Harpswell's fishing families. As we complete the celebrations of Harpswell's 250th anniversary, it is important that we recognize our men and women who draw their lives and livelihood from the sea. We admire your work ethic, your independence, your willingness to face foul weather and a turbulent marketplace. We like to believe that what is best in you reflects upon us.

Every fishing family is a business enterprise that requires an increasingly wide range of skills. Our fishermen are businesspeople, advertising directors, natural resource managers, purchasing agents, parents and partners. They represent an increasingly small number of people who make their living from our natural resources.

Some Harpswell fishing families can boast of having six or more generations of fishermen in their family tree. As we close out our 250th year, let us honor those who make a living from the ocean and recommit ourselves to never becoming one of those Maine towns known as a "former fishing village."

To you, and for ourselves, we wish for smooth seas and good fortune.



*"A Memorial to All Fishermen
Who Have Devoted Their Lives to The Sea"
Land's End, Bailey Island*

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*Cover photo &
design
by Mary Ann Nahf*

*2009 Harpswell
Open Space Plan
Focus Area
Selections*

*Clockwise: The Ice Pond.
Great Island; Long
Reach Preserve, Great
Island; Cedar Beach,
Bailey Island;
Wilson's Pond, Orr's
Island; and Otter Brook,
North Harpswell*

Elected Town Officials

January 1 to December 31, 2008

SELECTMEN, ASSESSORS AND OVERSEERS OF THE POOR

Amy N. Haible, Chairman (2009)

James S. Henderson (2010)

Mark E. Wallace (2011)

TOWN CLERK

Rosalind M. Knight (2010)

TAX COLLECTOR

Martha L. York (2010)

TREASURER

Marguerite M. Kelly (2010)

ROAD COMMISSIONER

Robert E. Venard (2009)

M.S.A.D. # 75 DIRECTORS

Joanne Rogers (2009)

Dorothy D. Carrier (2010)

David A. Johnson (2011)

Jane B. Meisenbach (2011)

Directory & General Information

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 39, Harpswell, ME 04079

E-mail Address: harpswell@zwi.net

Website: www.harpswell.maine.gov.

EMERGENCY 911

FIRE, POLICE, RESCUE, MARINE PATROL & ANIMAL CONTROL

Non-emergency: 1-800-266-1444

TOWN OFFICE HOURS 833-5771

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Thursday 1:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. Closed Holidays

RECYCLING CENTER HOURS (Subject to change) 833-6472

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Saturday 8:00 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Friday 6:30 a.m. – 4:15 p.m.

TRANSFER STATION HOURS (Subject to change)

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday & Saturday 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Recycling Center & Transfer Station CLOSED

Every Thursday & Sunday; Tuesdays from January 1 – May 1 & Town Meeting Day

Incorporated the 13th Town, January 25, 1758

First Settled Mid 1600's

Permanently Settled 1727

2000 Census: 5,239

Registered Voters: 4,384

Total Miles of Shoreline: 216.8

Total Area in Square Miles: 23.68

2008 State Valuation \$1,983,850,000

Town Officials

Town Administrator	<i>Kristi K. Eiane</i>
Deputy Town Administrator	<i>Terri-Lynn Sawyer</i>

Appointed Officials

Deputy Treasurers	<i>Rosalind M. Knight, Martha L. York</i>
Deputy Tax Collector	<i>Jill M. Caldwell</i>
Deputy Town Clerk	<i>Catherine J. Doughty</i>
Registrar of Voters	<i>Rosalind M. Knight</i>
Deputy Registrars of Voters	<i>Catherine J. Doughty, Shirley C. Thompson</i>
Voter Registration Appeals Board	<i>Pauline B. Toothaker, Joanne Gordon</i>
	<i>James Reed Coles, Barbara C. Knox,</i>
	<i>Beverly P. Gelwick, Donald S. Otto,</i>
	<i>Susan B. Lowery</i>
Code Enforcement Officer	<i>William B. Wells</i>
Plumbing Inspector	<i>William B. Wells</i>
Harbormaster	<i>James M. Hays</i>
Health Officer	<i>Terri-Lynn Sawyer</i>
General Assistance Administrators	<i>Kristi K. Eiane, Linda J. Strickland</i>
Animal Control Officer	<i>George Lee Johnson</i>
Emergency Management Agent	<i>William P. Labbe</i>
Fire Warden	<i>Frank R. True, Jr.</i>
Deputy Fire Wardens	<i>Patricia B. Frank, Fred R. Cantu,</i>
	<i>Linda J Strickland, Greg R. Tisdale,</i>
	<i>Lisa A. True, Richard E. Wyer</i>
Tree Warden	<i>Timothy J. Vail</i>
Fire Chiefs	<i>David S. Mercier, Harpswell Neck</i>
	<i>William R. Beazley, Orr's/Bailey Island</i>
	<i>Benjamin A. Wallace, Jr., Cundys Harbor</i>

Other Officials

Ambulance Captains	<i>Joyce D. Thomas, Harpswell Neck</i>
	<i>Edward M. Sparks, Orr's-Bailey Island</i>
	<i>Helen C. Tupper, Cundy's Harbor</i>
Deputy Sheriffs	<i>Andreas Schenk, Clayton T. Stromski,</i>
	<i>Jay Ward</i>
Marine Patrol	<i>George Lee Bradbury, Sam Cafone</i>
D.A.R.E. Officer	<i>Joachim J. Schnupp</i>
Superintendent of Schools	<i>J. Michael Wilhelm</i>
Principals	<i>Craig P. King, Mt. Ararat High School</i>
	<i>Brenda Brown, Middle School</i>
	<i>Jennifer Nucci, Harpswell Islands School</i>
	<i>Michael J. Estes, West Harpswell School</i>

Boards & Committees

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Hildegarde Bird '09
Dan Boland '09
Paula Conley '09
Hope Hilton '09

BOARD OF APPEALS

Ned Simmons '09
Ellen Lebauer '10
John Perry '10
George Every '11
James Knight '11

BUDGET ADVISORY

Robin Brooks '09
Burr Taylor, Jr. '09
Marguerite Kelly '10
Ellen Lebauer '10
Elinor Multer '10

COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY

CV Noyes '09
Alan Shaver '09
David Chipman '09

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

Richard Neiman '09
Elsa Martz '09
Robin Brooks '09
David Chipman '09
John Papacosma '09
Kenneth Cichon '09
Burr Taylor, Jr. '09
Louise Huntington '10

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Anthony Barrett '09
Deirdre Strachan '09
Donald Jones '09
Burr Taylor, Jr. '09
Ann Nemrow '10
Anne Perry '10
Mary Ann Nahf '11
Rhonda Weaver '09 Associate

EMERGENCY VEHICLES

William Beazley '09
Marguerite Kelly '09
Rick Leary '09
David Mercier '09
Ed Sparks '09
Helen "Cricket" Tupper '09
Ben Wallace '09
Mark Wallace '09

FIRE & RESCUE

William Beazley '09
David Mercier '09
Ed Sparks '09
Joyce Thomas '09
Helen Tupper '09
Benjamin Wallace '09

ENERGY TASK FORCE

Tom Allen '09
Robert Bartley '09
David Chipman '09
Thomas Haible '09
Debora Levensailor '09
Prescott McCurdy '09
Richard Newman '09 (Resigned)
Edmond Pelta '09
Trudi Riesenberg '09

GOVERNANCE

David Chipman '09
John Chiquoine '09
Debora Levensailor '09
Elsa Martz '09
Elinor Multer '09
Mary Ann Nahf '09
CV Noyes '09
Judith Redwine '09
Robert Waddle '09 (Resigned)

HARBOR & WATERFRONT

Peter Darling '09
Burr Taylor, Jr. '09
Walter "Scott" Moody, Sr. '10
Stephen Rowe '10
Robert Bartley '11
Lee Bradbury '11
Henry Schwartz '11

LIBRARY

David Hackett '10
Ellen Lebauer '10
Helene Mandelbaum '10

MARINE RESOURCES

George Bradbury '09
Mike Bernier '09
Walter "Scott" Moody, Sr. '09
Weston Watts '09
Vincent Hersey '10
David Wilson '10
Shelly Wilson '10

MITCHELL FIELD IMPLEMENTATION

Dan Boland '09
Sally Carignan '09
David Chipman '09
Paula Conley '09 (Resigned)
Chris Duval '09
Jim Hays '09
Ellen Lebauer '09 (Resigned)
Don Miskill, Jr. '09
Judith Redwine '09
Rob Roark '09
Scott Ruppert '09 (Resigned)

PIPELINE EASEMENT

Richard Barton '09
Richard Daniel '09
Nancy Dimmick '09
Len Freeman '09
Patricia McGovern '09
Walter Norton '09
Kay Ogrodnik '09

PLANNING BOARD

Robin Brooks '09
Roberta Floccher '09
Joanne Rogers '10
Dorothy Carrier '11
John Papacosma '11
Kenneth Cichon '11
Debora Levensailor '09 Associate

RECREATION

Judith Arndt '09
George Every '09
Rick Meisenbach '09
Don Miskill, Jr. '09
Anthony Barrett '10
David Brooks '10
Susan Rich '10

SIGN TASK FORCE

Cathy Alexander '09
Michelle Henning '09
Hati Modr '09
Elinor Multer '09
Jennifer VerPlanck '09

SOLID WASTE

Thomas Haible '09
Prescott McCurdy '09
Henry Schwartz '10
Anita Veilleux '10

TOWN LANDS

Ellen Lebauer '09
John Loyd, Jr. '09
Melinda Richter '09
Jane Smith '09
Robert Waddle '09
Chris Coffin '10
David Hackett '10

Selectmen's Report

The fine leadership of Select Board Chair Amy Haible, supported by board members Jim Henderson and Mark Wallace, produced a productive year of budget restraint, grant funding initiatives, and community planning. The Board held 53 regular or special meetings consuming over 120 hours as it dealt with nearly 600 substantive agenda items, not counting routine procedural matters. In addition, each member did "homework" for regular Board meetings and attended various advisory committee meetings for which they had responsibility.

We were able to obtain judicial clarification on Mr. Wallace's status as a member of the Board, thus removing any possible future questions about the validity of his service, and reimbursed his legal expenses incurred during the process.

Noting the 250th anniversary of the Town's founding, the Board held three regular meetings outside the Town Office: in the Old Town House, the Old Orr's Island Schoolhouse, and the Cundy's Harbor Community Building.

In the context of the Mitchell Field Master Plan adopted in 2007, the Board worked with the new Implementation Committee on several issues including a proposed conservation easement, approving removal of the fence along the shore, and improving access to the beach. The Board was pleased with the successful Harpswell Festival at the field, and provided supplemental funding for its 250th anniversary fireworks.

The Town, after attempting to work with the owner, acquired a parcel of land on the Hildreth Road as the result of automatic foreclosure for non-payment of taxes. After touring the site with representatives of the neighborhood and of several Town committees, the Town will now consider the following options: retain the property, place a conservation easement on all or part, or sell all or part of the property.

The Board created an Energy Task Force and a Governance Committee to advise on policies and potential ordinance changes in these areas. Among a variety of issues the Board dealt with were the following:

- monitoring the school district Reorganization Planning Committee activities mandated by the State
- completing an open space plan
- completing a water and septic study
- improving the management of Town-owned lands by appointing stewards to monitor conditions, planning improvements to the Tide Mill Cove area, and supporting better access to the Giant Stairs
- easing recall requirements
- considering whether some elected officials should be appointed (not at this time)
- pushing for a tower to improve cell phone and emergency communications, and
- concluding a ten-year service agreement with Harpswell Community TV.

Again, we thank the Budget Committee, under the able leadership of Treasurer Marguerite Kelly, for its hard work at presenting a budget that reflects the difficult financial challenges we will face in 2009.

We also want to acknowledge the excellent support provided by Town Administrator Kristi Eiane, Deputy Town Administrator Terri Sawyer, and the other staff and elected officials.

Finally, we thank you, the voters of Harpswell, for allowing us the opportunity to serve.



*Mark E. Wallace
Selectman*



*Amy N. Haible
Selectman*



*James S. Henderson
Selectman*

Town Administrator

Major areas of focus in 2008 were: (1) improvements to Town-owned properties; (2) attention to capital needs involving emergency services vehicles; and (3) future enhancement of public safety and emergency communications by reaching agreement on the cell tower to be constructed in 2009. Certain highlighted activities are listed below:

- Trail improvements to the Giant's Stairs path on Bailey Island
- Site improvements at the Tide Mill Cove Town Landing property, South Harpswell, creating parking and a defined path to the water
- Enhancements at Mitchell Field such as opening up the waterfront, allowing access along the causeway, and replacing the front gate
- Establishment of a municipally-administered heating assistance program to which \$10,000 was appropriated and over \$6,000 donated
- Completion of capital road projects on Steamboat Road, Bailey Island and Grassy Road, Orr's Island
- Agreement negotiated with Tower Specialists of Falmouth, Maine for the construction of a cell tower on Town property near the Transfer Station
- Further progress toward the eventual removal of the former fuel pipeline(s) running from Mitchell Field to Brunswick Naval Air Station
- Emergency services vehicles under contract: brush truck (\$123,411), ambulance(\$147,203), chassis (\$79,975) and the remount of a tanker (\$34,373)

Looking to the 2009 budget, there has been recognition of the current economic climate, the reality of declining revenues and the need to keep appropriations down while attempting to provide traditional levels of service. Although the 2009 budget proposes a decrease in appropriations from the prior year, the anticipated decline in revenue sources will not cover all

proposed spending articles without voter approval to surpass the LD 1 limit. This is the first time since the implementation of the LD 1 statute (which limits the amount of money raised from property tax to fund the municipal budget) that voters will need to consider increasing the LD 1 limit if all budget articles are approved. New areas of spending which potentially do not cause the LD 1 limit to be increased are \$30,859 for upgrading the municipal accounting and tax software and \$15,000 to be combined with \$15,000 from the marine hazards account to make necessary repairs to the Town dock at Pott's Point. New areas of spending that potentially cause the 2009 budget to be over the LD 1 limit are workforce housing at Hamilton Place (\$50,000), expansion and upgrade of the Orr's Island Library (\$10,000), and examination of the town line boundary issue with Brunswick (\$5,000).

Revenue projections have been reduced for 2009, most significantly in the following areas: vehicle and boat excise tax (down over \$60,000 from 2008 actuals), sales of recyclables (down \$50,000), interest earnings (down \$28,000), building permit fees (down \$8,000), and revenue sharing (down \$16,000). As the 2009 fiscal year moves forward, the Town will monitor revenue sources very closely to see if revenue projections and assumptions are holding. If source projections are significantly lagging and the recession deepens, consideration may have to be given to a curtailment of spending and predictably the 2010 budget year will be even more challenging. In addition to non-property tax revenue sources (\$1,460,000) and State revenue sharing (\$150,000) which are used to offset the amount collected from property taxes, voters will also be asked to authorize the use of \$285,000 of undesignated fund balance to offset the 2009 tax commitment. Use of this amount is consistent with the Town's policy of maintaining three months' worth (\$3,074,472) of prior year expenditures (\$12,294,230) in its undesignated fund balance. In addition, homestead revenue from the state is automatically used to offset the tax commitment and that revenue is anticipated, at this time, to remain at about the \$55,000 level.

Harpswell's 2008 LD 1 levy limit has increased in 2009 to \$2,103,780. The LD 1 law limits the amount that can be collected from property taxes for municipal purposes by tying it to the increase in new valuation (1.63%), the 10-year average of growth in real income (2.28%) and the change in revenue sharing from the prior year. The new levy limit, coupled with all anticipated non-property tax revenue sources totaling \$1,950,000, (a decrease of 9% from 2008), allows for a budget of \$4,053,780 to be considered compliant with the LD 1 statute.

Certain events in 2008 had budgetary reduction effects in 2009—the workforce was reduced by 1.5 positions by not replacing the second Code Officer (net reduction of approximately \$20,000) and by converting the bookkeeper position from full- to part-time (\$15,000). Correspondingly, a reduction occurred in employee benefits (\$35,000), particularly in health insurance due both to personnel and policy changes.

One major borrowing is proposed for voter consideration in 2009, for a capital road project pertaining to Ash Point Road in South Harpswell. The project has been fully engineered and based on the recommended strategy for reconstruction and on the length of the road, it is anticipated that the project could cost in the neighborhood of \$750,000. With \$147,000 available from unexpended capital road funds, voters are asked to consider bonding an additional \$603,000 to be paid off over a ten-year time period. While the rehabilitation of Ash Point Road

has been submitted as a potential “shovel-ready” project for federal economic stimulus purposes, the Town has no idea if or when that money might become available.

The staff will continue to apply for grants that are consistent with purposes approved by the Town Meeting. In 2008 over \$110,000 of grant funds were received by the Town including \$34,664 to replace overboard discharge systems; \$55,938 to replace failed septic systems; \$20,000 for trail improvements at the Giant’s Stairs; and \$2,433 to research right-of-way issues. This funding enables the Town to accomplish worthwhile goals without impacting the local property tax rate. Harpswell is committed to seeking grant funding sources that will benefit the Town, particularly with regard to improvements at Mitchell Field.

You, the voter, are empowered to shape Harpswell’s municipal budget. Please take time to participate in the Town Meeting on Saturday, March 14 where the voters, who are the legislative body of the Town, will determine the municipal budget that is finally adopted.

Thanks and appreciation is extended to the professional staff, the elected and appointed officials of the Town, and most appropriately to the numerous volunteers who provide services so beneficial to the Harpswell community. Whether one is volunteering on a Town committee, providing fire or rescue service, delivering Meals-on-Wheels to homebound residents, or engaging in other volunteer endeavors, the commitment to serve one’s community and make it a better place is greatly respected and gratefully acknowledged.



Standing: Jim Hays, Lee Johnson, Kristi Eiane, Marguerite Kelly, Bob Venard, Terri-Lynn Sawyer, Pat Frank, Greg King, Jim Gordon, Bill Wells, Lester Goodwin, Cody King, Linda Strickland Seated Back Row: Debbie Turner, Gina Perow, Liz Bouve. Front Row: Amy Haible, Jason Marshall, Jean Rich, Roz Knight, Cathy Doughty, Jill Caldwell, Mark Wallace. Absent: Martha York, Paul Gamache, Carol Tukey, Melissa Moretti, and Jim Henderson.

(Courtesy of the Harpswell Anchor)

Assessing Office

The Assessor's Department is responsible for discovering, listing, evaluating and equalizing the taxes for all taxable property, real and personal, within the Town of Harpswell. These duties and responsibilities are completed annually so as to comply with Maine taxation statutes. Discovery is accomplished by reviewing deeds, surveys, subdivision plans, taxpayer list declaration forms, building permits, etc. Listing depends on site inspections for new/old permits as verification of current data is important to determination of value. Valuation and equalization are accomplished through the process of assigning tax assessments which result in the equitable distribution of the property tax burden as defined by Maine Law.

The Assessors implemented valuation changes in several Harpswell neighborhoods in 2008. The changes were implemented to ensure continued equity in the distribution of property taxation. The Assessors committed the annual tax rolls to the Tax Collector on August 4, 2008, with the mil rate of \$6.19 per \$1,000.

2008 Statistics:

4912	Real Estate Parcels
149	Personal Property Business Accounts
1497	Homestead Exemption
264	Veteran's Exemption
3	Blind Exemption
128	Parcels Exemption from taxation
53	Tree Growth Current Use Program
2	Farmland Current Use Program
16	Open Space Current Use Program
1	Working Waterfront Current Use Program
353	Deeds recorded at the Registry of Deeds
754	Site inspection for data collection of building changes
31	New Lots Created

\$1,783,065,000.00	Total Real Property Value
\$ 3,574,500.00	Total Personal Property/Business Equipment Value
\$ (58,430,480.00)	Less Exempt Real Property
\$ (1,612,160.00)	Less Personal Exemption (Veteran, Blind, Parsonage) not reimbursed by the state
\$ (9,341,280.00)	Less 50% Homestead Exemption not reimbursed by the state
\$1,717,255,580.00	Total Valuation for 2008
\$ 6.19	Mil Rate (per \$1,000)
\$ 10,629,813.69	Total Taxes to be collected for the 2008 tax year (pennies are rounded)
96%	Assessment Ratio

Property Tax Relief

Homestead Exemption: This is available to all legal residents, for their principal residence, if they have lived there 12 months or have moved from a similarly qualifying residence. The exemption reduces the assessed value of the residential property each year. In 2008, the exemption reduced the taxable value by \$12,480. Once qualified, taxpayers need not reapply annually.

Veteran's Exemption: This is available to veterans who served honorably during a federally recognized war period and have reached the age of 62 on or before April 1 of the year first qualifying. The exemption is also available to widows of same and to veterans of any age who have a 100% service connected disability. In 2008, the exemption reduced the taxable value of a qualifying property by \$5,760. Again, once qualified, annual reapplication is not necessary.

Blind Exemption: This is available to residents who are legally blind and have a signed letter from a licensed Doctor of Osteopathy, Doctor of Medicine or Doctor of Optometry. Presently, the exemption reduces the taxable value by \$4,000. Once qualified, taxpayers need not reapply annually.

Farmland: This is available to landowners who have 5 acres or more and are using them for farming, agriculture, or horticultural activities. There is a penalty for any changes in use. Application needs to be updated and/or reviewed every 5 years.

Open Space: This is available to landowners who are interested in permanently protecting their land. The assessed value of the land can be reduced by using one or all of the following categories for open space: open space, 20% deduction; land permanently protected from development under a perpetual conservation easement, 30% deduction; forever wild which provides opportunities for low-impact outdoor recreation, nature observation and studies, 20% deduction; and finally, public access by reasonable means under landowners provisions, 25% deduction. There is a penalty for any changes in use. Once qualified, landowners need not reapply annually, but the landowners are required to give the assessor(s) notice of any changes in land classification.

Tree Growth: This is available to landowners who have at least 10 acres of forestland for commercial harvesting. There is penalty for any changes in use. Applications need to be updated by a licensed professional forester at least every 10 years.

Working Waterfront: This is available to landowners whose land is primarily used for commercial fishing activities only, up to a 20% deduction on the land. If the deed shows restrictions for commercial use only, 30% deduction on the land. There is a penalty for any changes in use. The assessor shall determine annually whether any classified land continues to meet the requirements.

The above is just a summary of the exemptions and the current use programs that are offered to Maine property owners. Please contact the Assessing Office for more detailed information prior to or on April 1, 2009 by calling 833-5771 or going to our website at www.harpswell.maine.gov to also view and /or print property information, tax maps, sales data, and applications for the current use programs and exemptions.

Code Enforcement Office

As many residents are aware, the Code Enforcement Office has undergone changes in the last year. William Wells has stayed on as the Code Enforcement Officer and local Plumbing Inspector, as well as the caretaker for the Town Office building and other Town properties. Jason Marshall joined the Code Office in May and provides administrative support while training for certification as a Code Enforcement Officer. Although the Office has “downsized” to a staff of two, it will continue to provide assistance and guidance in a timely and courteous manner.

Harpswell’s grant/loan program financed the replacement of four septic systems in 2008, with two in the works for 2009. The remaining two projects will exhaust the Cumberland County Development Block Grant that the Town received to fund this program. A new revolving loan program is being proposed to further assist low- to moderate-income families in replacing their failing septic systems. Please contact this Office if you are interested in this new program.

Two overboard discharge systems were replaced through the State’s Overboard Discharge Grant Program, with three pending and more in the works. Again this year, the Code Enforcement Office and the Maine Department of Marine Resources worked together to locate and assess septic systems near the shoreline. The Code Enforcement Office would like to thank landowners who have taken steps to resolve issues revealed by this process. The Office will continue to work closely with Marine Resources to locate and resolve issues and protect viable shellfishing grounds and water quality.

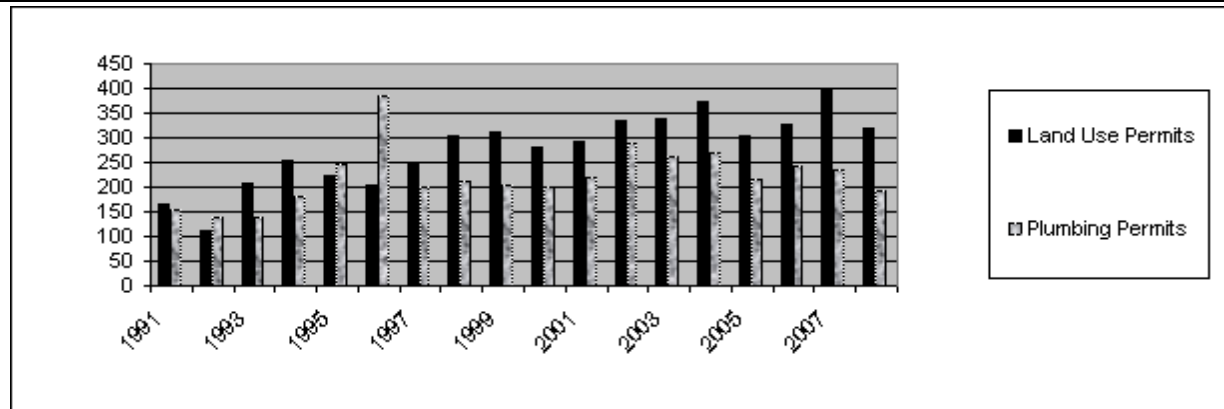
Despite the economic turmoil that marked the end of 2008, construction in Harpswell did not fall off as sharply as may have been expected. In 2008, the Code Enforcement Office issued 321 building permits (78 fewer than in 2007, or roughly 19%) and 192 plumbing permits (42 fewer than in 2007, or roughly 18%).

In addition, more than 28 complaints by residents were investigated.

The Code Enforcement Office anticipates another busy year in 2009. Please feel free to visit, call or e-mail with questions, concerns or suggestions.

TOWN OF HARPSWELL
Trendline of Plumbing and Building Permits

Year Issued	Permits Issued	Plumbing Permits	Mobile Homes	Home New	Accessory Structures	Additions Renovations	Piers Docks Floats	Rip- Rap Seawall	Other/repairs /maintnance	Modular Homes	Replacement Dwellings	Replace Wharf	Condos
1991	166	153	0	40	34	65	22	4	1	N/A	N/A	N/A	
1992	112	140	1	23	11	40	27	5	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	
1993	209	139	5	46	47	70	30	4	7	N/A	N/A	N/A	
1994	253	181	7	54	46	99	29	6	12	N/A	N/A	N/A	
1995	223	245	9	47	36	77	46	1	7	N/A	N/A	N/A	
1996	205	386	14	33	40	86	24	3	5	N/A	N/A	N/A	
1997	251	199	10	44	53	94	34	6	10	N/A	N/A	N/A	
1998	302	210	8	43	49	122	52	15	13	N/A	N/A	N/A	
1999	310	204	9	57	53	109	36	12	34	N/A	N/A	N/A	
2000	282	201	12	47	74	85	18	3	43	N/A	N/A	N/A	
2001	292	219	7	53	85	79	37	2	29	N/A	N/A	N/A	
2002	336	290	9	66	87	107	33	4	20	10	N/A	N/A	
2003	340	262	3	50	79	125	33	4	36	10	N/A	N/A	
2004	372	271	12	59	83	125	28	10	48	2	5	N/A	
2005	304	214	0	25	86	114	27	10	16	6	11	9	
2006	327	241	2	31	112	80	23	8	41	4	7	18	1
2007	399	234	2	43	114	104	27	10	63	2	4	30	
2008	321	192	0	19	70	113	21	18	54	4	7	15	0



Planning Office

It has been a busy year for the Planning Office. Planner Carol Tukey and Melissa Moretti have worked closely with many committees and boards to assist in their projects. They appreciate the hard work and dedication of all the groups they work to support.

The Planning Office is responsible for many different programs and projects. The areas of interest from the past year are: project review and planning, comprehensive planning, economic development, Brunswick Naval Air Station (BNAS) closure, environmental resources, and housing.

Comprehensive planning focuses on the long range planning functions to ensure the long-term sustainability and vitality of the Town. The Maine planning and land use laws seek to promote comprehensive planning in all towns. A “Comprehensive Plan” is a long-range plan that provides a policy framework to guide municipal decisions. Harpswell has a strong history of comprehensive planning beginning with the first Comprehensive Plan in 1974 and including the recently adopted Mitchell Field Master Plan and the proposed Open Space Plan.

The Subdivision and Site Plan Review program provides a project review framework that is consistent and predictable and ensures quality development. As part of the development review process, zoning, drainage, traffic, environmental considerations and infrastructure improvements are assessed. Compliance is important for the protection of the public’s health and safety and the general livability of the Town. In the past year, the planning area accepted 14 applications for development review and 3 rezoning requests. These reviews included the telecommunications tower, which is due to be constructed this spring.

The Economic Development program generally revolves around the implementation of the Mitchell Field Master Plan and also fosters support and cooperation between the Town and the business community; particular efforts have been made to foster a relationship with the Harpswell Business Association (HBA). Many grants have been applied for to begin implementation of the Mitchell Field Plan. These should allow the renovation and construction of improvements to the infrastructure.

The Planning Office also keeps informed of the BNAS base closure and the effects it may have on the Town. The groups that lead in this process are the MidCoast Regional Redevelopment Authority, MidCoast Business Development and Planning Alliance, and Governor’s Advisory Council. All of these groups have websites that include minutes of meetings.

The Office has also been working on environmental initiatives with the New Meadows River Watershed Project group and is working on conservation and improvements for the New Meadows watershed. In addition, the Planning Office has been working with the Conservation Commission on the Open Space Plan, which will seek to protect a portion of the undeveloped land in Town. The Plan outlines approaches that provide for orderly development, enhance recreational opportunities and contribute to the long-term health of the marine economy.

The Planning Office has worked with the Regional Housing Coalition and the Harpswell Affordable Housing Committee. The Housing Committee is working to create an affordable housing ordinance, which will be ready for Town Meeting vote in 2010.

In addition, the Office has been working with the consultants who the Town hired to update the Water and Septic Study. This Study, in association with the Open Space Plan, will provide the Town with much needed information to plan for the inevitable growth over the coming years. Growth is not necessarily a good thing or a bad thing, but unorganized growth can be a detriment.

The Planning Office thanks all the people who have made this an exceptional and enjoyable year! It welcomes any assistance and comments on our continuing projects and if you have ideas for the future, please come in. Your planning staff would love to hear them.

Emergency Management Agency

The year 2008 provided a very busy and active time for the Emergency Management Agent. Preparedness happens year-round. Preparedness and planning is an on-going process at the local, county and state emergency management level. Attendance at meetings in many locations occurred in Portland, Westbrook, Windham, Topsham and Harpswell.

The winter storm in December 2008 began as a flashback to the ice storm of 1998. The ice storm of 2008 began on Thursday night and by Saturday everything in Harpswell had come to a standstill. On Saturday, a Red Cross Shelter was opened at Mt. Ararat High School and included use for Harpswell residents. On Sunday, the Harpswell Town Office was opened up to residents for use as a warming place. An emergency meeting of the Town emergency team was held Saturday at 2:00 p.m. and assessment of the current situation was discussed. Problems were revealed and focus on the developing situation took place.

A major concern that came to light was a landline telephone situation. There are banks of batteries throughout the Town that are supplied and serviced strictly by the phone company. These batteries were not charged leaving some landline phones inoperable. This created a problem for lifeline subscribers. The Town and the phone company have subsequently met to resolve this problem.

The Town continues to be part of a Cumberland countywide mutual aid agreement. It allows our town to assist neighboring towns in a major emergency if called upon to do so and in return they do the same for the Town of Harpswell.

As EMA, I will continue to attend monthly meetings in Windham at the Cumberland County Emergency Management headquarters. My goal is to ensure that the Town of Harpswell remains in a ready status should a disaster occur.

General Assistance

The year 2008 was a difficult one for many. With oil and gas prices rising in the summer of 2008 many people requested help through the General Assistance Program. This program, according to State law, is “a service administrated by a municipality for immediate aid of persons who are unable to provide the basic necessities essential to maintain themselves or their families.”

The General Assistance Administrator must follow the Town ordinance as well as State statute and policy in order to administer the program consistently. General Assistance Administrators work closely with the State Department of Health and Human Services. They are advised to require receipts from repeat applicants to verify how they spent their income in the 30 days prior to making application. If this documentation is not provided, administrators must consider such income to be available to the household. The General Assistance Administrator can also assign workfare for the applicant to perform for the Town. This consists of an assigned number of hours to fulfill the requirements of a General Assistance re-application.

In March of 2008, a new program was developed, the Harpswell Heating Assistance Program. This program is for those who do not qualify for General Assistance but need help with heating costs. Residents who are in need should contact the Town Office to see if they meet eligibility guidelines. To date, the Town has assisted 36 households.

In October of 2008, the Maine State Housing Authority requested the Town’s assistance with taking applications for Low-Income Heating Assistance Program (LIHEAP), a federal program which is administrated by the State. Harpswell residents may bring financial information into the Town Office and fill out an application.

The Town provides an important service by connecting people to the proper resources for assistance. Once again, area churches have been most charitable in helping to meet the needs of those in Town. If any of the above named programs are needed, please contact Linda Strickland at the Town Office at 833-5771 to make an appointment.

General Assistance Program

	<i>Housing</i>	<i>Utilities</i>	<i>Heating</i>	<i>Food</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Supplies</i>	<i>Total</i>
2008	\$9,769	\$1,492	\$2,528	\$ 602	\$318	\$196	\$14,905
2007	\$6,675	\$ 540	\$2,698	\$ 509	\$ 80	\$119	\$10,621
2006	\$4,678	\$1,752	\$1,476	\$ 695	\$785	\$153	\$ 9,539
2005	\$7,498	\$1,134	\$2,738	\$ 701	\$ 49	\$313	\$12,433
2004	\$3,588	\$ 939	\$1,466	\$1,878	\$700	\$203	\$ 8,774

Animal Control

"Love of animals is a universal impulse, a common ground on which all of us may meet. By loving and understanding animals, perhaps we humans shall come to understand each other." - Dr. Louis J. Camuti, first US veterinarian to devote his practice to felines only.

The Life of a Harpswell Animal Control Officer

A typical day in the winter, when snows are deep, usually brings quiet to my beeper as most animals are inside. However, on the occasion of its beep, beep, beep I know time is of the essence as the cold temperatures can bring quick and serious consequences for lost animals. Traps set for homeless cats must be checked hourly and lost dogs located and picked up immediately.

Spring brings mud, flowers and animals outside. It is also the high season for kittens, some of whom are homeless or feral. With the help of Harpswell folks in the past, many colonies of cats have been taken care of by capture, sterilization and adoption or return. In the spring of 2008 Animal Control was not made aware of any kittens. Spring did bring dogs on the loose; neighbors' concerns about barking and personal contact with owners of 160 unregistered dogs. This involves repeated phone calls, repeated house visits, dealing with many houses without house numbers, even though state law requires houses to display numbers. Houses should be numbered for the safety of the residents, not just for the convenience of the Animal Control Officer.

Summer brings tourists, some not so savvy in Maine ways, and the need to keep animals safe in a strange place. Last summer a bounding lab did not perceive the end of the Cliff Trail and catapulted down a steep embankment. With fire and rescue, six rescuers descended grabbing roots and, as learned later, poison ivy branches, to get to the dog. A hand over hand, man over man descent with the dog on a stretcher to an awaiting fan boat from Brunswick took the dog to a car for transport to emergency vet services in Portland. The Animal Control Officer was beat up, covered in poison ivy but lucky to be safe only to find out the dog had a broken toe. The vet called it a miracle. Though not an average summer day, certainly one in which to be proud of volunteer emergency services in Harpswell. Fall usually continues with dogs on the loose. Many home visits involve facilitating conversations between neighbors and informing people of policies and expectations.

In December Animal Control was made aware of a colony of 25 adult and young cats. This involved 550 miles in a single week to transport the cats, trapped one at a time, who were then spayed or neutered, given shots and returned as barn cats or adopted.

Though not part of the job, the Animal Control Officer continues to serve on the Board of Directors of the Coastal Humane Society and remains very impressed by CHS, the director, staff and volunteers.

Fire Warden

In 2008 just over 875 permits were issued by the Town fire wardens and 157 permits were issued online.

Residents may stop by the Town Office during normal business hours M-F to obtain a permit from Deputy Fire Wardens Pat Frank and Linda Strickland. Fire Permits can be obtained online at www.maineburnpermit.com for a \$7.00 fee. Fire Warden Frank True, and Deputy Fire Wardens Dick Wyer, Greg Tisdale and Lisa True can issue permits at any time. Fred Cantu, Manager of the Recycling Center, can issue permits on Saturday mornings at the Recycling Center. Open burning is not allowed in the Town of Harpswell without a permit.

The number one complaint the Town received was for unattended burns. It is illegal to leave an open burn until it is completely extinguished. To burn legally, the fire must remain in the burner's control at all times. The number two complaint was smoke from open burning by neighbors. Remember, during the summer windows are open, so the burner must know which direction the wind is blowing and act accordingly.

In the interest of public safety, permits are not issued when the fire danger is determined to be "extreme" or "very high" by the Maine Forest Service, and only a limited number of permits are issued when the danger is "high." The Forest Service posts current fire hazard conditions daily on its website.

Plan to burn when vegetation is damp and wind is calm. Burning when the ground is snow-covered, during a light drizzle, and/or just before precipitation is forecast is ideal. Typically, November-March offers the safest conditions for open burning.

In receiving a burn permit, the burner agrees to follow a specific set of safe practices. Please review these carefully before burning:

- Burning must proceed with all necessary precautions to prevent the spread of fire and must not create any nuisance conditions for neighbors.
- Don't burn when wind speed exceeds 10 mph (5 mph when burning grass) If the wind comes up the fire must be extinguished.
- Fires must be attended at all times by at least 1 adult with the necessary tools and water to burn safely.

Burners must have a written permit in their possession, regardless of whether the permit is obtained online or in-person. The burner is responsible for the fire if it escapes and may be liable for suppression costs up to \$10,000 as well as any damages caused to other property.

Thank you for burning responsibly.

Harbormaster

The main functions of the Harbormaster are the management of Town landings, moorings and floats. Moorings are inventoried in a GPS system which provides tracking of placement of moorings as well as the ability to compare that data against payment for moorings and registration of moorings. It also shows trends of mooring assignments over past years.

Activity	2006	2007	2008
New Applications	135	169	154
Registered Moorings	2363	2450	2524
Moorings in the Water	(Unknown)	1970	2167
Floats registered	3	3	8
Floats in the water	87	83	84
Navigation aids	2	3	5

Ordinance

At the March 2008 Annual Town Meeting the Town of Harpswell Harbor & Waterfront Ordinance was amended. This document is used to fairly and equitably manage the moorings and floats in Harpswell waters.

Moorings

One of the changes calls for owners to permanently paint or burn their mooring numbers on the mooring balls for proper registration identification. In 2008 many mooring owners had already done this. This proved to be helpful in identifying registered and abandoned moorings. One goal for 2009 is to communicate this change so that all mooring owners will be cognizant of this particular section of the ordinance.

Floats

As noted in the 2007 annual report, all floats need to be registered with the Army Corps of Engineers. The new ordinance also requires all floats in Harpswell waters to be registered annually with the Town of Harpswell and identified with a sticker and the number permanently marked on the mooring ball attached to the float.

Wait Lists

The areas in Harpswell that have wait lists for moorings are: Mackerel Cove, Card Cove, Cundy's Harbor, Bethel Point, Lombos Hole, Water Cove, Potts Point Town Landing, & The Goslings.

Town Website

The Town website has a section dedicated to the Harbormaster's activities. This section includes items such as mooring applications, mooring fees, and maps of mooring fields in all areas of Town. A mooring owner has the ability to go online and pinpoint the GPS setting for a specific mooring. Some applicants have used the map to request a particular spot to place their new mooring. The Harbormaster can be reached by Telephone 833-5771, ext 106 or cell at 751-9298.

Recreation Department

The 2008 year was full of changes for the Recreation Department. Liz Bouvé, the Recreation Director for the past six years officially retired October 1, 2008. Liz has done a wonderful job over the last six years. She created new programs, reinvented old ones and took the Recreation Department to a new level. Gina Perow stepped into her place, becoming the Interim Recreation Director.

Gina, a lifelong resident of Harpswell, says she is “truly thrilled to have this opportunity to work for our community.” In the past seven months each of the children’s programs has been evaluated, noting registration numbers versus first/last day attendance, parents’ and children’s input regarding instructors and strengths and weaknesses of the programs. Most programs are close to full with only a few losing participants as the program progresses. Some programs are harder to find coaches/helpers for and that will be addressed for the coming year. Balance will be the key to making 2009 a success for children’s programming. Updates to the recreation website will be ongoing.

With the passing of Joyce Brown, a fund in her name has been proposed. Joyce was instrumental in the creation and upkeep of the children’s swimming programs. The Joyce Brown Fund is available to Harpswell residents who are in need, covering registration costs in the Summer Swim program. The current amount in the Fund is \$3,860 with donations coming in from Maine to Colorado. Joyce touched many people in her life. If you are interested in donating to this important fund, please make checks payable to: Joyce Brown Swim Fund and send them to the Town Office. Ongoing Tuesday Bridge, adult basketball and donors both known and anonymous, have made it possible to help children who would not otherwise be able to participate in recreation programs. In 2008 \$1,170 was contributed to help these children. New financial aid forms are available at both elementary schools and the Town Office.

Recreation awards were presented at the January 8 and January 22 Selectmen’s meetings. Linda Blanton and her late mother, Phyllis Blanton, received an award for all their work with the swim program. Also recognized were David Matero, Chuck Alexander and Keith Richardson for the amazing job they did in making the 2008 baseball season and U12 Baseball Tournament such a success.

In June, Harpswell hosted the U12 Ararat Baseball Tournament. It brought in people from surrounding towns, as well as Richmond and Boothbay Harbor. The stands were packed with excited parents and grandparents. Marie Pressman sang the National Anthem to kick things off. For four days there was high action with runs, balls and strikes. Topsham won the tournament but Harpswell kids and parents definitely have some of the best sportsmanship around.

To our hundreds of volunteers in 2008, THANK YOU. This Town of roughly 210 elementary school aged kids relies on parents and volunteers to make programs happen. Harpswell has one of the largest program offerings around. None of it would be possible without the volunteers, parents, community members, high school kids and most recently Bowdoin College students. Any comments and suggestions from the community are greatly appreciated.

Harpswell Swim Programs *(by Don Miskill)*

Both Swim Programs were very successful. The Summer Swim Program saw 238 children from Harpswell and surrounding communities receive swim instruction for two weeks under the guidance and assistance of 51 instructors and support staff. The Free Community Swim Program had its most successful year with an average of 60+ people using the Bowdoin pool each Sunday from January to April and September to December.

One important note for the community: Both the Harpswell Island School and West Harpswell School Swim Programs need additional volunteers to assist the children, or the programs are in danger of ending. Living on the water as we do, it is an absolute necessity that Harpswell children know how to swim. There is a core group of instructors but help is needed to keep the programs going. Any assistance will be greatly appreciated. Please don't let these programs end.

Mitchell Field *(by Don Miskill)*

The Mitchell Field perimeter road and walking paths through the woods underwent major renovation this year for the enjoyment of all. Removal of the shoreline fence has allowed access to the beaches at the field too. Thanks to the Mitchell Field Committee and the volunteers who made it all happen.

Recreation Committee *(by Tony Barrett)*

On November 13, 2008, the rehabilitation of the popular, one third mile Bailey Island shore walk at the Giant's Stairs was completed after a more than a two-year effort by the Recreation and Town Lands committees. The committees, working with town staff, organized trail planning assistance from the state which led to a \$20,000 grant and the hiring of a Maine Conservation Corps trail crew to work with town volunteers on the 10-week project. Over 30 volunteers contributed time, materials and equipment in the successful restoration of this pathway.

Considered the most popular walk in town, this informal trail was showing the effects of high-use—erosion, widening, poor drainage and complaints from adjacent property owners. The improved footpath will help keep users from wandering onto adjacent parcels, better control erosion and provide a more stable surface for tentative walkers. Although not explicitly designed under ADA standards, wheelchairs have transited the wider and more even-surfaced footpath since the work has been completed. The project has resulted in a safer and more accessible path for all to enjoy.

2007



2008



A. Dennis Moore Recycling Center/Transfer Station

Jim Gordon retired in October and Fred Cantu was selected as the new Manager. Jim, who was a tough act to follow, left the Recycling Center and Transfer Station in excellent order. Prior to Jim's retiring a new Skid Steer was purchased to facilitate both transporting materials and parking lot maintenance in the winter months.

Tonnage processed at the Recycling Center and Transfer Station over the past five years is as follows:

Recycling Center & Transfer Station Summary 2005 through 2008

Waste Received		2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
	Recycling Center (Tons)	1778.8	1768.6	1702.6	1659.5	1622.8
	Transfer Station (Tons)	1497.4	1555.8	1570.8	1959.7	1327.0
	Total Tons	3276.2	3324.4	3273.4	3619.2	2949.8
Material Recycled						
	Recycling Center %	35.3%	35.9%	35.5%	36.0%	34.4%
	Transfer Station %	73.0%	75.8%	70.6%	76.3%	59.7%
	Annual Recycling Rate	52.6%	54.6%	52.4%	57.9%	44.6%

Harpwell's Recycling Center effectiveness in 2008 was 44.6% percent, and represents a statistical comparison of total tonnage received against total tonnage recycled. The rate has decreased in 2008 after holding constant for the past four years. Citizen help is needed to increase the recycling rate and reduce the taxpayer's burden required to support operations.

Revenues at the Recycling Center are driven by market prices. Currently, recycled paper prices are low. Mixed Paper started the year at \$76/ton and ended the year at -\$25/ton, while newspaper started the year at \$115/ton and ended at \$31/ton. Plastics are more lucrative but require more material to sell. The total cost to the taxpayers for each ton of recyclable material thrown into the compactors is \$302, while recycling that same ton of material could net approximately \$75 in revenue at today's prices.

Additional revenue is being lost as a result of improper use of the Wood and Metal slots at the Recycling Center. The materials deposited in those slots end up at the Transfer Station for disposal as building demolition materials. This tonnage is disposed of at a cost of \$205/ton with no revenue received. Items like BBQs, mattresses and furniture that are dismantled to fit in the slot should be disposed of intact at the Transfer Station and fees assessed to offset the costs of disposal rather than placed in the slot.

All are asked to do their part to help make 2009 a productive year for recycling and The Center's manager and staff looks forward to working with Harpswell residents to ensure that the Town keeps the environment clean and its costs at a minimum through effective recycling.

**Town of Harpswell
Summary of Revenues
Recycling Transfer Station**

Revenues Generated by Recycling/ Transfer Operations

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Disposal Fees:									
Brush	\$3,869	\$5,694	\$5,957	\$7,130	\$9,869	\$18,584	\$11,434	\$11,051	\$11,031
Demo Material	\$61,583	\$63,451	\$33,348	\$48,124	\$69,862	\$77,970	\$101,835	\$113,993	\$125,462
Household Debris	\$4,362	\$3,550	\$2,838	\$2,914	\$4,873	\$12,780	\$7,349	\$9,604	\$5,405
Refrigerators	\$670	\$830	\$1,022	\$1,424	\$2,075	\$1,905	\$1,866	\$1,741	\$1,375
Metal			\$3,128	\$4,029	\$6,839	\$8,812	\$5,731	\$6,518	\$3,276
Tires	\$820	\$1,141	\$1,882	\$1,585	\$2,170	\$2,959	\$1,731	\$1,718	\$1,580
Universal Waste			\$3,453	\$3,674	\$3,723	\$4,678	\$6,249	\$4,927	\$2,745
White goods						\$41	\$45		
Subtotal	\$71,304	\$74,665	\$51,626	\$68,879	\$99,412	\$127,729	\$136,240	\$149,551	\$150,874
Sales:									
Cans & Bottles	\$2,579	\$2,111	\$4,307	\$6,009	\$6,565	\$6,771	\$7,024	\$6,877	\$4,376
Cardboard	\$5,910	\$2,933	\$9,323	\$5,496	\$7,964	\$7,141	\$6,494	\$9,768	\$9,633
Glass	\$381	\$268					\$4	\$0	
Metal	\$8,134	\$9,156	\$2,494	\$4,061	\$8,046	\$8,546	\$10,741	\$6,609	\$15,838
Newspaper	\$13,797	\$8,603	\$11,785	\$16,146	\$23,154	\$15,106	\$21,683	\$26,967	\$19,658
Paper	\$2,538	\$5,041	\$2,581	\$6,656	\$1,926	\$6,867	\$6,096	\$5,831	\$10,760
Plastic	\$2,851				\$7,114	\$12,010	\$5,642	\$8,541	\$5,604
Reclaim			\$165	\$1,061	\$5,328	\$1,823	\$4,626	\$3,201	\$2,572
Wood Chips				\$586	\$780		\$2,698	\$6,555	
Composter								\$474	\$675
Subtotal	\$36,190	\$28,111	\$30,654	\$40,015	\$60,876	\$58,264	\$65,007	\$74,823	\$69,116
Other:	\$2,930	\$446						\$31	\$142
Total	\$110,424	\$103,223	\$82,280	\$108,894	\$160,288	\$185,993	\$201,248	\$224,404	\$220,131

Amounts for the most recent 8 years taken from Revenue Control Reports. Amounts for 2000 taken from Treasurer's Report
mk 2/10/2009

Tax Collector's Office

The Tax Office has had another busy year. Property tax collections went very well. The first payment was due September 15th and the second due December 15th.

We have collected 10.1 million of the 10.6 million due for the 2008 real estate taxes.
THANKS TO OUR TAX PAYERS.

TOTAL REVENUE COLLECTED FOR 2008 WAS \$12,103,482.34.
As always it has been a pleasure serving you.

Unpaid Taxes

2008 UNPAID REAL ESTATE TAXES

* Indicates taxes paid in full

Aldred Sandra 1/2 Unknown Owner	828.22	Brown James & Anne G	1444.13
Alexander Margaret	474.52	* Bullington Cynthia K	1326.82
Allen Harry R	431.44	Butler Howard D Hrs of	2146.07
Allison G Christopher & Jean	1054.77	Cairns Kelly J	157.81
Amendola Dana F & Maryellen	1016.40	Cappello Paula	495.82
Estate of Thomas I Arnold Jr	82.94	Caron Scott L	379.57
Arquette Ronald	961.93	Caron-Kelley Christine M & Edward K Kelley	1392.25
* Auburn Colony	380.49	* Carrick Dianne L	1746.20
* Auburn Colony	1030.18	Carter Russell	675.95
Baker Clayton Jr, Linda, Brian, Guy & Clifford	454.03	Chamberlin Roger & Holly Trust	2617.93
Baldwin Thomas T III	787.37	Chapman Brett D	893.52
Barker Martha	2152.13	Chapman Julie F Trust	2181.66
Bastarache Lori	81.83	Chase Leonard R & Carolyn D Trust	768.00
* Beebe Christina T & Kenneth	510.70	* Chatterjee Roy & Rogers Maya C	2016.70
Below Benjamin F & Lisa Ellen Haskins	1927.69	Chipman David	276.07
* Bayberry Ledge Cottage Trust	991.64	Chipman David I	813.49
* Bibber Charles & Beverly	3273.36	Chipman Stephen & Noyes Carroll	521.82
* Bibber Charles & Beverly	2406.67	* Clark Paul & Deborah Morton	242.65
Bibber Sally M	911.79	* Clark Paul H III & Deborah W Morton	1041.77
Bourassa David & Dale	16.40	* Coffin George A & Jill D	2362.85
Bourassa David & Dale	819.86	Colburn David	2115.12
* Bourgoin Marie P	942.49	Colburn David	798.51
Boyce Robert J	628.28	Colburn David	605.38
Boyd Elizabeth	1231.25	Colburn David Nelson & Susan N	972.76
Boyd Elizabeth	381.30	Colburn David Nelson & Susan N	1248.83
* Boyer William & Leila	24.16	Colburn David Nelson & Susan N	336.42
* Bradbury Lynn A	51.35	Collins Richard W Jr & Suzan M	698.11
Brillant Leon C	1678.11	* Comeau Glenn	1526.45
Brillant Leon C & Marsha L	1298.66	Conant James W & Tammy L	385.02
Brockett Teresa	173.94	Connolly Ronald J	2168.73
Brown James	1228.84	* Connolly Virginia M	595.98

Coombs H Leo	1023.83	* Glew Ellen	4572.55
Coombs H Leo & Janet	1678.11	Goff John V & Janice E Skillin	647.16
Coombs William M	2615.89	* Golz Ronald A & Noel Y	11.35
Coombs William M & Denise	2529.85	Goodenow Joey A	73.78
Coombs William M & Denise	923.55	Graham Robert E	2023.51
Coombs William M & Denise	519.34	Graves Roger	393.68
Coombs William M & Denise	676.57	Graybill Warren D Sr	337.36
Coombs William M & Denise	921.07	Guernelli Gianella F & Karen	2333.01
Coombs William M & Denise	130.61	Halpin Timothy F	410.39
Coombs William M & Denise	563.29	Hanscom Linda C	1496.74
* Cort Ann S	333.99	Hansen James B & Elizabeth A	2344.77
Coulombe Sandra W	2810.88	Hansen John Henry	101.52
* Craft John D & Madelyn H	379.54	Havas Peter	3220.90
Crosman Jamie	960.13	Hawkes Corydan E & Sheryl	629.83
Crosman Jamie	273.60	Heather Lane Assoc	23.34
Crosman Jamie	258.43	Hernandez Victor & Iris	1854.52
Crosta Timothy & Linda	1860.09	* Herold Matthew G Jr & Patricia Kathryn A	1909.62
Curtis Nigel P & Paula M Deluc	1851.09	Hillman Barbara E	530.98
Dana Michael B & Janet T	1175.26	Hoebeke Daniel G & Ellen L	5490.53
Davis Everett Sr	340.45	* Hyde Stephen & Susan	25.52
Davis Everett Sr	757.03	* Indian Rest Association	1043.32
* Davis Jill	214.17	Jennings Robert Case & McKee Patricia E	1402.04
Davis Laurel A Carrick	1841.65	Johansen Sherman & Cheryl	1532.36
Davis Michael	82.95	Johnson Chanda L & Damon c/o Elizabeth Johnson	971.83
Davis Peter	1126.58	Johnson Douglas A & Janel D	249.50
* Davis Stephen W	475.46	* Johnson Fred, Jeffrey, Millicent, Carolyn & Richard	18.47
Decker Harry C & Lynn	673.16	Johnson Howard E Jr & Glenda L	2746.38
Dingley Sandra A & Bard Linda	2948.30	Johnson John L	2662.21
* Dorsey Mark M	1344.40	Johnson Kimberly T	1109.87
Dostie Daniel G & Susan R	2013.73	Johnson Krista L	1527.38
Dostie Jules A & Yvette J	126.89	Jones David W & Debra	729.80
Dostie Jules A & Yvette J	2138.02	Kane Mitchell E & Alice C	442.71
Doughty Bruce & Elizabeth M	17.33	Kaynor Sandra J L	567.40
Drake Clayton H	208.60	Kelley Kimberly & Melissa	427.73
Durant Robert A	1064.80	Kenney Elwynne W & Bernice W	497.55
Elliott Ricky A & Wendy L	1189.22	Kirker Sharon A	195.60
Eutin Harry J	150.28	* Kirker Sharon A	5838.53
Farmer John L & Belinda D	1229.71	Kitchener-Jones Loraine	1094.71
Favreau Terry, Gary, Scott, Nancy & Donna	1155.07	* Klamon Edward M & Herta M	3475.68
Feldman Robert M	587.74	Koenig Lisa, Linda Ingram, Daniel & Laurie Bowie	1425.26
* Field Richard & Suzette	258.43	* Kramer Thomas R & Kelly A	14.33
Fischer Michael & Kathleen	633.86	* Lafleur Andrew W & Deborah F	899.41
Fischer Michael & Kathleen	1795.10	* Lamberton Cynthia E	23.73
Fish Althea W	146.05	* Lapointe Ronald & Samantha	720.52
* Flaherty Peter	530.17	* Lapointe Ronald & Samantha	82.63
Ford Rose H & Rosemary	656.47	* Lapointe Ronald & Samantha	55.09
Garver Robert	363.35	* Lapointe Ronald & Samantha	173.32
Gilliam Levi & Marcia	762.61	* Lapointe Ronald & Samantha	377.59

* Lapointe Ronald & Samantha	69.33	Morgan Linda	1272.66
* Lapointe Ronald & Samantha	75.83	Morgan Mary P	645.12
* Lapointe Ronald & Samantha	68.71	Morgan Maurice & Veronica	1148.25
* Lapointe Ronald & Samantha	67.16	* Munsey Russell & Martha	268.66
Larson Barbara, Wendy & Christopher	523.05	Murray Paul III & Sandra	2396.89
Leach Donald	2994.85	Newman Betty & Laurence Jr	81.17
Leach Donald	258.12	Nordwall Alan Jr & Michelle	202.72
Leahy Thomas, Patricia, Joseph & Dorothy	4596.82	Nordwall Alan Jr & Michelle	167.13
Leeman Carol	682.76	Nordwall Alan Jr & Michelle	171.15
Leeman Jean & Walter III	1692.53	Nordwall Alan Jr & Michelle	171.15
* Leeman Margaret	767.00	Nordwall Alan Jr & Michelle	908.07
Leeman Walter	4110.78	Nordwall Alan Jr & Michelle	171.15
Leeman Walter A	3281.69	Nordwall Alan Jr & Michelle	180.44
Lester Joan	2767.55	Nordwall Alan Jr & Michelle	161.87
Lewis Richard & AnnMarie	1217.26	Nordwall Alan Jr & Michelle	161.87
Linehan John J	315.38	Nordwall Alan Jr & Michelle	171.15
Llewellyn M Viviane	2289.68	* O'Brien Lauren Whittemore	553.86
* Lombardi Jerome & Stephanie	62.72	O'Connell Brian K	338.59
* MacDuff David	316.31	* O'Connell Daniel & Rebecca	875.39
MacGregor Katherine & James	193.13	* O'Connell Mary Ann	1461.83
Maclean David & Mabel	356.54	* O'Connell William & Diana	1612.18
Maclean David & Mabel	622.71	Ober Diane & Meador Josephine	5707.80
Maclean David & Mabel	91.61	Ormsby Robert ID	499.53
Malone Stephen I	3239.85	Ouellette Maurice E	3611.25
Malone Stephen I & Gail Fisk	1844.00	Owen Thomas & Jane Furbeck-Owen	2041.21
Maney Harold Sr	471.59	Palmer Russell & Jayne	401.73
Maney Lillian & Harold	61.90	Pancione Michael & Thomas Christopher	2738.46
Manos Laurie A	4638.79	* Pelta Edmond & Helen	81.41
Marando Michael L & Denise	662.73	Pennell Keith & Sarah	1454.03
* Marean Daniel W	700.58	Perkins Joan	1093.77
Marquis Steven & Deborah	317.24	* Perry Rosemarie & Daniel	2229.70
Marr Maurita	2317.04	* Peterson Joseph & Donna	563.66
* Mathieu Douglas & Aurelie	660.16	Petroff Holman C Hrs of	318.08
Matthews Douglas	190.03	* Pickering David & Jennifer	1416.89
McAuliffe Michael & Kimberly	1114.20	Piel Stobie	3579.39
McCallum Mark & Caldwell Kathleen	1028.16	Pineau Susan	1366.13
McCoig Kathryn	602.29	Pothoff Alan & Jennifer	776.65
* McCreight Tim & Joyce	1712.77	Potts Point LLC	1175.59
McIlvaine Charles III & Ellen Farum	1705.66	Prosser Paul	1231.81
McIlvaine Charles III & Ellen Farum	1717.42	Prosser Paul	202.41
McKay Stephen	1098.89	Prosser Paul	1574.74
Mello Rosemarie & David	1350.78	Prosser Paul	4256.24
Mitchell Lynette	534.94	Purinton Bruce G Jr	1066.54
* Monroe Paul & Leigh I Kelly	983.43	Purinton Bruce G Jr	1394.11
Montgomery Thomas III	3022.58	Purinton Bruce G Jr	2276.68
Moody Robert A	640.05	Purinton Bruce G Jr	2705.03
Moore Robin E	142.37	Purinton Geraldine J	1467.40
Moreau Robert & Margaret	361.49	Quinn Charles III	2518.71

Quohog Bay Shared Lot & Dock	747.13	Toothaker Hrs of Alfred B	369.74
Randall William & Heather	4521.30	Toothaker Hrs of Alfred B	1465.70
Reppucci David & Victoria	1287.00	Toothaker Hrs of Alfred B	1501.69
Rice-Gould Norma J	1756.72	Toothaker Martin	272.98
Richards Timothy & Dawn	1260.28	Troutman Hugh	1428.21
Richardson Josephine	1180.31	Tucker Jack	52.74
* Ring Lynda L	1017.64	Unknown Owner	34.05
* Ring Lynda L	2671.11	Waddle Robert & Mary	2276.43
Roby Robert	280.41	Waddle Robert & Mary	1985.44
Roby Robert	280.41	Waddle Robert & Mary	913.95
Rogers Jon	330.55	Waddle Robert & Mary	2229.64
Rogers Jon	1326.64	Waddle Robert & Mary	465.80
* Rose Albert	331.01	Wallace James, William, Benjamin, Mary & Amy	1371.70
* Russell Virginia	462.39	Wallace River LLC	1295.87
Sachs Anthony & Darcy	23.49	* Walsh Laura, James & Diana Lederman	1357.96
Savage George W	376.97	Walsh Michael & Lindi	473.04
Savage George W	590.53	Warburton Paul & Mary	1162.48
Savage George W	1034.35	Ward Lewis V	2287.21
Skelton Alfred & Carol	518.16	Ward Lewis V	1436.82
Skelton Carol	632.93	Ward Lewis V & Loretta	686.47
Skillings-Goff Janice, James, Robert, Mrgaret & James E Davis	1025.99	Ward Richard E & Timothy	1546.39
Slattery Theresa	1474.46	Warner John M Jr & Prudence	1381.73
Small Nicole & Gene Graffam	814.29	Watson Mark & Jennifer	330.54
* Smith Jeanne	1367.06	Weaver Lloyd & Rhonda	1599.62
Smith Richard N & Velma Hrs of	77.07	Webber Alan	247.60
Smith Ronald & Mary	408.04	Weinert Frederick & Stephen	315.07
Sparks William M Jr & Linda	536.80	Weliever Stanley & Linda	3782.40
Spinelli Susan & John Tyson	746.01	Werler Edward	667.41
Sprague Sarah	2090.98	Wessel David & Kimberly	2120.69
Stadnik Walter & Doris	1372.94	Wille Charles K	1098.73
Stancombe Richard & Kris	284.66	Wille Charles K	2521.81
* Staples Harold & Marcia	901.88	Wille Charles K	1231.81
Steinbeiser Andrew & Terry	977.13	Wille Kathryn & Margaret	854.22
* Stover Andrew & Janice	1427.41	* Wilson David	69.02
Strange Michael	311.15	Wilson David R	942.12
Sturges Sheldon & Hale	384.73	* Wilson Leneler	837.51
* Sugarman Edward & Beth	1328.68	* Wilson Leneler	1567.06
Theriahult John & Dorothy	1912.09	* Wilson Leneler	719.90
* Thibeault Patricia & Thomas	1222.03	* Wilson Leneler 1/11th Ownership	122.00
Thompson Shriley Hrs of Carroll Morrell	1059.23	Wilson Phoebe Hrs of	2479.10
Tondreau Dwyer Susan Carole & Dwight John	33.30	Wright David F Jr	664.81
Toothaker Hrs of Alfred B	317.75	Yanok Robert	371.46
		TOTAL	376,890.48

2008 UNPAID PERSONAL PROPERTY			Moore Robin E			139.61
	Bailey Island Market c/o Robert & Marylou Kandur	19.34		Morgan Linda	1247.99	
	Blackbird c/o Alan Jr & Michelle Nordwall	121.32		Morgan Maurice F & Veronica	628.06	
*	BM McFadden Studio c/o McFadden Brad	3.10		Murray Paul J III & Sandra A	2347.27	
	Craig Associates c/o James G Craig	7.43		Ormsby Robert ID	489.85	
*	Deer Cutting c/o Thibeault Patricia	11.14		Prosser Paul S	1207.93	
	Fish House c/o Bob Graves	9.90		Prosser Paul S	198.49	
	H L Coombs Construction c/o Herman Coombs	537.91		Prosser Paul S	1312.33	
	H2 Outfitters c/o Jeff Cooper & Cathy Pirth	44.57		Prosser Paul S	4173.73	
	Harbor Propellar c/o Kenney Elynne	13.93		Purington Bruce G Jr	1363.93	
	Harpwell Neck Stables c/o Morgan Maurice	5.57		Purington Bruce G Jr	2232.55	
*	Haible Amy	5.57		Rice-Gould Norma J	1722.67	
	Moe's Country Store c/o Maurice Ouellette	50.14		Sparks William M Jr & Linda	523.23	
	Morgans Garage c/o Morgan Maurice	26.62		Thompson Shirley Hrs of Carroll Morrell	1035.54	
	Perkins Seafood c/o Perkins Joan	40.85		Toothaker Hrs of Alfred	311.59	
	Pods Enterprises Inc	11.45		Toothaker Hrs of Alfred	362.58	
				Toothaker Hrs of Alfred	1437.29	
				Toothaker Hrs of Alfred	1546.63	
				Toothaker Martin	267.69	
				Town Of Harpswell	885.98	
				Unknown Owner	33.39	
				Ward Lewis V	2242.87	
				Ward Lewis V	1405.81	
				Weinert Frederick W & Stephen	308.96	
				Wright David F Jr	325.96	

2006 UNPAID PERSONAL PROPERTY	
H2 Outfitters C/O Jeff Cooper & Cathy Pirth	6.32
TOTAL	6.32
2005 TAXES TO LIEN	
Bastarache Lori	146.96
Graybill Warren D Sr	313.38
Unknown Owner	31.63
TOTAL	491.97
2005 UNPAID PERSONAL PROPERTY	
Avtech	23.72
Newcourt Leasing Corp	43.13
TOTAL	66.85
2004 UNPAID PERSONAL PROPERTY	
Avtech	43.78
Criz Prop Tax Solutions	27.86
Newcourt Leasing Corp	82.59
TOTAL	154.23
2003 UNPAID PERSONAL PROPERTY	
Avtech	41.36
TOTAL	41.36
2008 ABATEMENTS	
Wallace B Millner III of the WBM Revocable Trust	1156.91
Thomas A & Michele L Himes	1246.05
Donald M Saxton	655.52
Maria Connolly	56.95
Richard Berry	1161.86
Emile J & Joan M Chonko	198.70
Arthur Dodge & Rebecca Stanley	260.60
Exco, Inc.	268.02
Heirs of Alfred B Toothaker	75.52
George M & Sharon Deyett	357.78
TOTAL	5,437.91

2007 ABATEMENTS	
Donald M Saxton	642.81
Orr's Island Fire Department	1750.59
Mark & Patricia Brady	279.83
Ellsworth Brockett	104.40
TOTAL	2,777.63
2006 ABATEMENTS	
Donald M Saxton	630.11
Scott Roy	142.21
Carol Tijerina-Sleeper	7.14
TOTAL	779.46
2005 ABATEMENTS	
Scott Roy	137.43
Carol Tijerina-Sleeper	6.90
TOTAL	144.33
2004 ABATEMENTS	
Scott Roy	55.62
Carol Tijerina-Sleeper	13.93
TOTAL	69.55
2008 SUPPLEMENTAL	
Peter & Marlene L Northey	56.95
Arthur Dodge & Margaret Woodruff	260.60
TOTAL	317.55

Town Clerk's Office

There's never a dull moment behind the counter in the Clerk's Office. The seasonal projects of dog and shellfish licenses, moorings, hunting and fishing licenses and Town meetings are blended with issuing marriage licenses, processing passports, notary services and helping with historical genealogy searches. And the list goes on.

This is an interesting place to work, but with all the day-to-day tasks faced in 2008, the November election took center stage. The Town Clerk's Office had been anticipating and planning months ahead of time. The Office received paper ballots early and started fulfilling requests by sending them to voters overseas in August. As always there were election law changes. Training had to be planned, managed and attended by our staff and then by all poll workers townwide.

Because of the overwhelming interest and expected high voter turnout, a law was passed making 2008 the first year that permitted absentee ballots to be processed the day before Election Day. While protecting the traditional anonymity of the voter as well as the results of the vote, election workers processed 1,208 absentee ballots. We also saw an outstanding turnout on Election Day of 2,309 voters. Issues such as this required strict attention to detail and once again the election staff in your Town did their usual outstanding job and pulled it off.

I must again this year thank my deputies and the many professional diligent poll workers that make all elections, and in particular the November 2008 election, a smooth and historic event for the voters of Harpswell. It has been a pleasure to serve the people of Harpswell again this year.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rosalind M. Knight, Town Clerk

Licenses & Permits

<u>INLAND FISH & WILDLIFE LIC.</u>	502	<u>SHELLFISH LICENSES</u>	
<u>DOG LICENSES</u>		Resident Commercial	65
Dogs	936	Senior Resident Commercial	5
Kennels	2	Non-Resident Commercial	6
<u>PASSPORTS</u>	90	Senior Non-Resident Commercial	1
<u>REGISTERED BUSINESSES</u>	6	Resident Recreational	256
		Non-Resident Recreational	24
		Resident Over 65 Recreational	15
		Non-Resident Over 65 Recreational	1
		Student Commercial	1
<u>CERTIFIED COPIES</u>	435	<u>MOORINGS</u>	
<u>NOTARY SERVICES</u>	276	Residents & Taxpayers	2,262
		Non-Residents	122
		Rentals	131
		State of Maine/Eagle Island	9

2008 Elections & Town Meetings

March 8, 2008

Annual Town Meeting

Number of Voters: 1,143

Percentage of Voter Turnout: 27%

June 7, 2008

M.S.A.D. #75 District Budget Meeting

Number of Voters: 26

Percentage of Voter Turnout: .6%

November 4, 2008

General/Referendum Election

Number of Voters: 3,517

Percentage of Voter Turnout: 82%

May 12, 2008

Special Town Meeting

Number of Voters: 154

Percentage of Voter Turnout: 3.6%

June 10, 2008

Primary/Referendum Election & M.S.A.D. #75 District Budget Validation

Number of Voters: 1,048

Percentage of Voters: 25%

Vital Statistics

<u>Births</u>	34	<u>Marriages</u>	36	<u>Deaths</u>	54		
<i>Those who passed on in 2008</i>							
Kent, Diana L.		67	1/3	LeMont, Shirley E.	92	6/29	
Smith, Reginald L.	<i>Bath</i>	72	1/3	Logan, William T. Jr.	83	6/30	
Solbjor, Eleanor M.		77	1/5	Saxton, Virginia "Jean" M.	81	7/6	
Sheffer-Barnett, Helen K.	<i>Conn.</i>	77	1/8	Lewis, Ethel G.	94	7/15	
Hubbard, Henrietta L.		92	1/23	Lord, Joan M.	75	7/16	
Allen, Willis R. Jr.		59	1/23	Cichon, Kenneth E.	60	7/23	
Boyd, Stanley E.		57	2/2	Brassard, Joseph G.L.	81	7/28	
Connolly, Ronald J.	<i>Nicaragua</i>	55	2/3	Dresden, Judith A.	73	8/6	
Moran, Robert G.		92	2/16	O'Connell, Mary A.	71	8/15	
Wolf, Raymond J.		69	2/25	Rush, George M. Jr.	94	8/18	
Rogers, Allison M.		10	3/4	Waterman, Lee S.	78	8/21	
Griffin, Elizabeth V.	<i>Calif.</i>	91	3/10	Brown, Joyce P.	70	8/26	
Johnson, Guy E.		84	3/11	Spalding, Edward L.	96	9/23	
Armstrong, Leba A.	<i>Florida</i>	95	3/15	Hausman, Judy A.	70	9/23	
Smith, Kenneth E.		64	3/16	Piermarini, Rae E.	80	9/30	
Perkins, Theodore J.		70	3/18	Wyman, Martin J.	76	10/6	
Wessel, Tilden B.		81	3/20	Briggs, Barbara F.	88	10/7	
Wilson, Phoebe E.	<i>Sebago</i>	83	3/24	Levesque, Ronald G.	71	10/7	
Boardway, Alice M.		93	3/27	Reifman, ElizaBeth M.	55	10/9	
Soderberg, Norman R. Sr.		77	4/2	Dobransky, Joseph D.	91	10/12	
Dennis, Pamela P.		48	4/2	Hanchett, Arlene S.	<i>Topsham</i>	94	10/13
Field, Clement R.		94	4/11	Blood, Norman W. Jr.	<i>Florida</i>	88	11/2
Mathieu, Dolores M.		96	4/20	Nunnally, Vernard E.		66	11/3
Wang, Frances F.K.		87	4/20	Ramos, Janet E.		79	11/5
Barnes, George W.		80	4/25	Kaufman, Roger W.		83	11/15
Pennell-Moody, Cathy E.	<i>Bruns.</i>	54	5/9	Ormsby, Henrietta L.		91	11/29
Quarton, Judy, A.	<i>Freeport</i>	66	5/19	Edgerton, Marvin S.		91	12/4
Wyer, Donna L.		80	5/20	Peters, Barbara J.		76	12/6
Leeman, Carol L.	<i>Brunswick</i>	68	5/24	Tanguay, Roger E.		71	12/8
Leet, Joseph W.		73	5/27	Gamache, Mary J.		90	12/17
Below, Caroline B. C.		90	6/1	Theberge, Russell E.		69	12/22
Buzzell, Gary E.		47	6/3	Moretti, Joseph D.		55	12/25
Shiras, Rosemary S.		82	6/6	Allen, Marie L.		89	12/29
Prentiss, Faye H.		72	6/28	Kotuby, Dorothy C.		85	12/30

Treasurer

The Town ended 2008 with bank balances of \$4,364,355. Of this amount, \$646,890 is in an account dedicated to the purchase of emergency vehicles. These vehicles, three of which were under contract at the end of 2008, will be leased to one of the 3 fire & rescue departments serving the Town. The schedule for these purchases was developed jointly by the departments and reviewed in 2007 by an independent consultant hired by the Town. This account was initially funded with a \$135,000 appropriation and was supplemented in 2008 by the borrowing of \$500,000. The interest earned on these funds (\$11,890 through the end of 2008) is retained in the dedicated account. The increase in this dedicated account represents a substantial portion of the \$559,465 increase in total bank balances from 2007. Interest earned on the Town's bank balances, excluding the dedicated account, totaled \$93,357 in 2008.

The Town's outstanding borrowings decreased by \$8,333 during 2008 as the \$500,000 borrowing described above was offset by scheduled payments of \$508,333. These payments included the final installment on a 1993 borrowing for the capital improvement of the Town's Recycling Center. The Town paid \$78,335 in interest on its long-term debt during the year.

The Town's general fund balance was \$3,837,595 at the end of 2008 having increased by \$90,991 over the prior year. Of this, \$478,123 is designated for specific purposes, leaving an undesignated fund balance of \$3,359,472. The undesignated portion of the fund balance increased by \$133,334, as revenues exceeded expenditures by \$289,280 and net transfers to other funds of \$198,289 were made.

The Town's general fund balance was used during the year to fund expenditures until such time as 2008 real and personal property taxes were received. To supplement these funds, the Town established a line of credit in the amount of \$3,000,000 against which periodic draws were made. The interest rate on this line was 2.23%. The maximum outstanding short-term borrowing was \$3.0 million and the interest cost for the year was \$39,468.

Non-property tax revenues totaled \$1,718,264, excluding Recreation Fees, Grants & Gifts with specified purposes, Revenue Sharing & Homestead payments and Interest on the Dedicated Emergency Vehicles account. Of this amount, \$1,670,000 was used to reduce the 2008 tax commitment. The remainder is in the Town's general fund balance and is available to offset the 2009 tax commitment.

During 2008, the Town received payment of a land use violation fine totaling \$100,000, a fine that was not included in the 2008 forecast. Absent this fine, the Town would have fallen short of the forecast by approximately \$52,000. Contributing to the shortfall were excise taxes, permits and interest earnings. The 2009 forecasts used in preparing the 2009 municipal budget have been further reduced in these areas, as well as in the level of revenues expected to be generated from the sale of recyclable materials. Expected receipts from the State of Maine have also been reduced.

Debt Service on Long-Term Debt

2008 Issue: Emergency Vehicles

2009 - 2018

2/10/09

Issue	Interest Rate, %	Original Amount	Balance Jan-09	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Amortization:													
Existing Debt													
2000 G.O. Bond	5.25 - 5.41	\$1,209.8	\$220.0	\$110.0	\$110.0								
2003 G.O. Bond	2.291 - 3.166	\$840.0	\$380.0	\$190.0	\$190.0								
2004 G.O. Bond (tax-exempt)	4.18	\$700.0	\$466.7	\$58.3	\$58.4	\$58.3	\$58.3	\$58.4	\$58.3	\$58.3	\$58.4		
2004 G.O. Bond (taxable)	5.7	\$300.0	\$60.0	\$60.0									
2006 G. O. Bond	2.05 - 5.45	\$350.0	\$210.0	\$70.0	\$70.0	\$70.0							
2007 G. O. Bond	3.84	\$75.0	\$50.0	\$25.0	\$25.0								
2008 G. O. Bond	2.075 - 5.575	\$500.0	\$500.0	\$25.0	\$25.0	\$75.0	\$75.0	\$50.0	\$50.0	\$50.0	\$50.0	\$50.0	\$50.0
Total			\$1,886.7	\$538.3	\$478.4	\$203.3	\$133.3	\$108.4	\$108.3	\$108.3	\$108.4	\$50.0	\$50.0
Interest:				\$78.7	\$55.5	\$36.6	\$30.6	\$25.4	\$19.2	\$11.1	\$5.7	\$2.38	\$1.04
Total Debt Service				\$617.0	\$533.9	\$239.9	\$163.9	\$133.8	\$127.5	\$119.4	\$114.1	\$52.4	\$51.0

Notes:

The 2004 G.O. Bond (taxable) is with BankNorth, N.A.. The 2007 G. O. Bond is with Bangor Savings Bank. All other debt has been placed through the Maine Municipal Bond Bank.
 2000 Issue: Town office renovation and expansion, Waste Disposal Center improvements, land purchase (LeMay).
 2003 Issue: Town office renovation and expansion, land purchase (Doughty Point), contrib. to HHT land purchase (Skolfield, Mackerel Cove).
 2004 Issue (tax-exempt): Capital Road project (7 roads), Old Town Meetinghouse restoration.
 2004 Issue (taxable): Town revaluation
 2006 Issue: Capital Road Project (Dingley Island Rd., Holbrook & Merritt).
 2007 Issue: Loan to Harpswell Neck Fire & Rescue

Marguerite Kelly, Treasurer

Road Commissioner

In 2008, Harpswell completed a major capital reconstruction of two roads in Harpswell; Grassy Road on Orr's Island and Steamboat Road on Bailey Island. This reconstruction was done pursuant to a contract with Ray Labbe & Sons which included complete base replacement, several under-road drains, culvert replacements, two layers of pavement and safety improvements to the access to Route 24.

General maintenance in 2008 included road sweeping and mowing, tree removal, replacing collapsed culverts, several rounds of filling potholes, ditching and shoulder repair, and even the trapping of a beaver that was clogging up two overflow culverts for a small pond next to a town road. Specific roadwork was done on Peabody, Bethel Point, Robinhood, Lowell's Cove, Windsor, Shore Acres, Field, Indian Rest, Basin Point, Ash Point and Long Point roads and on Cooper Lane. Repairs were made to a large bridge/culvert on Bethel Point Road which had developed a large hole due to corrosion.

The unusual amount of snow in 2008 led to a deficit in the snow removal budget for 2008. Efforts continue to reduce the use of sand and salt on Harpswell roads without sacrificing public safety. The current contracts with Harry Crooker & Sons and R. A. Webber & Sons for snow removal terminate on April 1, 2009 at which time Harpswell will begin a process of contracting for the next few years of snow removal.

Work done in 2008 included the development of a comprehensive capital improvement plan for all Town roads to project required work over the next few years. Hopefully, with Town warrant approval, Harpswell will be able to make major improvements to Ash Point Road in the coming year and to Peabody, Thompson, Wharf, Lowell's Cove, Shore Acres, Little Island and Abner Point Roads, and Washington Avenue over the next few years.

Town Caretaker

The Town Caretaker is responsible for the maintenance of Town-owned lands and buildings. These duties are carried out by William Wells, who is also the Town's Code Enforcement Officer and Local Plumbing Inspector.

In addition to considerable time spent maintaining and patrolling Mitchell Field, several projects of note have taken, or are taking place, including:

- Ongoing efforts to improve energy efficiency in the Municipal Office building.
- Bringing the Municipal Office building into compliance with State regulations regarding the preservation of vital records and vault door requirements.
- Working with the Harbormaster to facilitate maintenance of Town-owned landings and wharf systems.
- Continuing to assist the Selectmen with review of projects at Mitchell Field.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding Town-owned lands or buildings, feel free to contact Mr. Wells via telephone or e-mail, or stop by the Code Enforcement Office.

PH: 207-833-5771 x 113 e-mail: bwells@town.harpswell.me.us



Cumberland County Sheriff's Office

- **Mark N. Dion, Esq.**
SHERIFF
- **Kevin J. Joyce**
CHIEF DEPUTY

36 COUNTY WAY, PORTLAND, ME 04102

PHONE (207) 774-1444 ~ FAX (207) 828-2373

Dear Citizens,

On behalf of the men and women of the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to you for the privilege of providing law enforcement services for the Town of Harpswell.

As we embark on a new year, the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office is committed to providing prompt, efficient and professional law enforcement services to the citizens of Harpswell. During the past year, the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office has made some significant technological improvements to enhance our deputy's ability to provide effective and efficient law enforcement services to the Town of Harpswell.

In June 2008, we converted to another method of data transfer which has dramatically improved the deputy's ability to access relevant information, search jail records and do license/criminal records checks. We believe this updated technology will further enhance the efficiency and information sharing capabilities of each deputy assigned to the Town of Harpswell, as well as those working throughout Cumberland County.

As we proceed through 2009, the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office will be working to further develop a "STARCOM" (Statistical Tracking, Accountability and Response through Computer Oriented Mapping) program that will bring together such issues as crime, accident frequency and quality of life issues and map those areas geographically utilizing GIS (Geographic Information Systems). Although several prototypes have been developed and refined, the Sheriff's Office is in the process of completing the project in early spring.

We welcome your support, suggestions and input as we continue to strive for increased excellence in law enforcement services.

Best Regards,

Mark N. Dion
Sheriff

Cumberland County Sheriff's Office

Incident Report For January 1 – December 2008

<u>Nature of Incident</u>	<u>Total Incidents</u>	<u>Nature of Incident</u>	<u>Total Incidents</u>
911 Hangup	86	Information Report	1
911 Misdial	26	Inspection Permit	24
Abandoned Vehicle	43	Intoxicated Person	1
Accident w/ Property Damage	78	Juvenile Problem	12
Accident, w/ Personal Injury	21	Litter/Pollution/Public Health	2
Agency Assistance	206	Lockout - Assist	1
Alarm	160	Lost Property	13
Animal Problem	153	Loud Party Music	4
Assault - Simple	6	Official Misconduct	4
Attempt to Locate	87	Missing / Lost Person	3
Burglary	20	Operating Under Influence	2
Burglary to Motor Vehicle	1	Parking Problem	11
Canine callout	1	Pedestrian Check	17
Citizen Assist	162	Property Check	319
Citizen Dispute	11	Prowler	4
Civil Dispute	7	Recovered Stolen Property	1
Community Policing	2	Runaway Juvenile	1
Court Service	36	Search Warrant	1
Criminal Mischief	35	Sex Offense	1
Criminal Trespass	15	Sex Offender Registry	4
Custodial Interference	1	Speed Complaint	16
Dead Body	8	Suicide	9
Debris in Road	12	Suspicious Person/Circumstance	72
Message Delivery	1	SDS Cad Test	1
Direct Traffic	2	Theft	35
Disorderly (Not Defined)	1	Theft-Vehicle	3
Disturbance	55	Threatening	14
Domestic Violence	11	Traffic Detail	50
Controlled Substance Problem	2	Traffic Hazard	19
Equipment Problem	5	Traffic Violation	257
Escort	13	Underage Drinking	1
Fireworks	5	Unsecure Premise	2
Fish and Game Violation	21	Unwanted Phone Calls	11
Forgery	1	Vicious Animal	1
Found Property	15	VIN Number Inspection	3
Fraud	15	Wanted Person	11
Harassment	14	Weapons Offense	17
Illegal Parking	2	Welfare Check	40

Calls for Service

The total "Calls for Service" in 2008 was 2328. Traffic related incidents totaled 761 (included in this figure were traffic related "Calls for Service.")

<u>Month</u>	<u>Traffic Warnings</u>	<u>Traffic Citations</u>	<u>Calls for Service</u>
January	17	16	161
February	9	5	107
March	6	12	183
April	1	12	168
May	4	12	174
June	16	15	194
July	16	20	244
August	1	14	212
September	6	7	265
October	6	14	222
November	3	5	209
December	2	2	189

Marine Patrol

Incidents

Total Warnings	13
Total Pecks Checked	475
Boat Days	9
Marine Summonses	2
Traffic Summonses	18
Diggers Checked	566
Bushels Checked	710
Assists to Patrol	121
Arrests	<u>2</u>
Total	1916

OLYMPIA J. SNOWE
MAINE

154 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
(202) 224-5344

Web Site: <http://snowe.senate.gov>

DEPUTY WHIP

COMMITTEES:
COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION

OCEANS, ATMOSPHERE, FISHERIES AND
COAST GUARD SUBCOMMITTEE

FINANCE

INTELLIGENCE

RANKING MEMBER, SMALL BUSINESS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1903

January 2009

Dear Friends:

I want to thank you for the opportunity to offer warm greetings to the Town of Harpswell as we begin this New Year. As a nation, as a state, and as many individual towns and cities, we face historic challenges together. At this time when we consider where we have been, and most especially the year to come, I appreciate this opportunity to share with you my thoughts on some of my goals and priorities for 2009.

Indisputably, our economy is the foremost challenge facing us today. We are confronted by both an economic crisis with a recession that has already lasted for more than a year, and a financial crisis, the magnitude of which has reached monumental proportions. With the economy having contracted 0.5 percent in the third quarter of 2008 alone and the national unemployment rate having surged to nearly a 16 year high of 7.2 percent, there is no question we are in a painful downturn. In Maine, unemployment rose to 6.3 percent in November, and during that month alone, new unemployment claims increased 23 percent from the same period last year, while ongoing and emergency claims were up 74 percent.

That is why I have made recommendations with respect to a critically-needed economic stimulus plan in letters and phone calls to President-elect Obama, Vice President-elect Biden, and Senate Leadership. Specifically, I am urging an extension of unemployment benefits; an increase in federal funding for food stamps given their use is reaching an all-time high; increases in federal funding for the Federal Medical Assistance Percentages as Medicaid remains the second largest component of state budgets; and a substantial investment in infrastructure projects, including water purification and wastewater treatment projects.

Moreover, as Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, I have introduced legislation to help restore economic growth by thawing frozen credit markets so that small businesses can continue to be the driving force of our nation's economy. My bill, the *10 Steps to a Main Street Recovery Act*, incorporates ten achievable, common sense measures that could be implemented immediately.

Additionally, I will continue to champion the New Markets Tax Credit that has had such a tremendous impact here in Maine. For example, Bangor Savings Bank and Coastal Enterprises, Inc. have developed an initiative that utilizes New Market Tax Credits – which provide investments for businesses of all sizes in low-income communities – to fund a loan pool for small- and medium-sized businesses at below market rates. This program has proved so successful that, in addition to recently helping secure the largest New Market Tax Credit allocation of any organization in the entire country, it could become a model nationally on how to bring New Market Tax Credits to small businesses in low-income communities. These efforts to spur capital investment in Maine's business community demonstrate what can be accomplished when local entities work together to support economic development.

AUBURN
TWO GREAT FALLS PLAZA
SUITE 7B
AUBURN, ME 04210
(207) 786-2451

AUGUSTA
40 WESTERN AVENUE, SUITE 408C
AUGUSTA, ME 04330
(207) 622-8292

BANGOR
ONE CUMBERLAND PLACE, SUITE 306
BANGOR, ME 04401
(207) 945-0432

BIDDEFORD
227 MAIN STREET
BIDDEFORD, ME 04005
(207) 282-4144

PORTLAND
3 CANAL PLAZA, SUITE 601
PORTLAND, ME 04101
(207) 874-0883
MAINE RELAY SERVICE
TDD 1-955-3323

PRESQUE ISLE
169 ACADEMY STREET, SUITE 3
PRESQUE ISLE, ME 04769
(207) 764-5124

IN MAINE CALL TOLL-FREE 1-800-432-1599

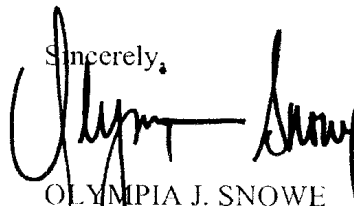
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There are, of course, many other issues that require solutions. Affordable housing is scarce in Maine, as funding has been stagnant for many government programs designed to create housing for low-income residents. For a number of years, I have been a cosponsor of a bill to establish a National Affordable Housing Trust Fund, which would be a dedicated funding source for the production, preservation, and rehabilitation of 1.5 million affordable homes in ten years. This past year the bill was signed into law. As a longtime advocate for affordable housing and homelessness issues, I believe that such a fund will be critical and beneficial for Maine and the entire nation, and am pleased that in the Fund's first fully funded year, Maine could receive \$10 million for the development and rehabilitation of housing for those with extremely low incomes. The bill also contains provisions to ensure that communities can mitigate the harmful effects of foreclosures – and, as a result, Maine stands to benefit from \$37.4 million in direct funds for neighborhood stabilization.

There are also steps we can take that can help hard working Maine families save money while decreasing both our dependence on foreign oil and greenhouse gas emissions. One of my continuing goals for this new Congress is to increase funding for the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP). The WAP is the government's largest residential energy conservation program and provides important assistance to low-income families facing high energy bills. Since the program's inception, more than 5.8 million homes have been weatherized using federal, state, utility, and other monies. Each of these households now has more money to spend on other necessities; in fact, for every dollar spent, WAP returns \$2.72 in energy and non-energy benefits over the life of the weatherized home.

These are but a few of the multiple issues to be addressed in the New Year while we also continue to grapple with such pressing matters as providing increased access to quality health care, and strengthening our nation's homeland security. And, of course, we remember today – and every day – the extraordinary contributions and courage of our brave men and women in uniform in Iraq, Afghanistan, and around the world.

Again, you may be assured I will continue to work tirelessly on behalf of the people of Maine and America and – in so doing – I deeply appreciate the input of all those who share their insights, concerns, and opinions with me. I encourage you to visit my Senate website at www.snowe.senate.gov for additional details on my efforts, to obtain helpful government information, and to share any concerns or legislative input you may have. You may also visit with members of my staff at my Regional Office located at 3 Canal Plaza in Portland, or by calling (207) 874-0883.

Sincerely,

OLYMPIA J. SNOWE
United States Senator

SUSAN M. COLLINS
MAINE

413 DIRKSEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904
(202) 224-2523
(202) 224-2693 (FAX)

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1904

January 9, 2009

COMMITTEES:
HOMELAND SECURITY AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS,
RANKING MEMBER
ARMED SERVICES
SPECIAL COMMITTEE
ON AGING

Dear Citizens of Harpswell:

In 2008, Mainers entrusted me to serve another term in the U.S. Senate. I am deeply honored and pledge to continue to work with my colleagues, both old and new, and with President Obama to forge bipartisan solutions to the economic crisis and the many other challenges facing our nation. I appreciate this opportunity to report on some highlights of my recent work in the U.S. Senate.

The number one priority continues to be to strengthen our struggling economy. We must look at additional ways to get our economy back on track. Last summer, I introduced an economic recovery bill, which included a proposal for \$50 billion in infrastructure funding to create jobs and improve our nation's aging transportation infrastructure. Anyone who drives in Maine recognizes the deteriorating state of many of our roads and bridges. Investing in our infrastructure not only creates jobs but also leaves communities with lasting and needed assets. My proposal also includes \$1 billion in additional funding for the Workforce Investment Act and tax incentives to help small businesses and to encourage energy conservation.

One of the energy provisions of the legislation was signed into law last year. It provides a \$300 tax credit to help individuals purchase clean-burning wood pellet stoves in order to provide an affordable alternative for heating their homes.

Soaring energy prices throughout much of 2008 highlight the critical need for our nation to achieve energy independence. As a nation, we should set a goal of energy independence by the year 2020—an ambitious goal that will require a multi-faceted approach, but one that can be achieved through resolve and commitment. I joined a bipartisan group of 20 Senators that has developed a comprehensive bill to expand production of American energy, promote conservation, and spur the development of alternative sources of energy. To immediately mitigate the effects of high prices, I fought to increase funding for programs that help our seniors and low-income families such as the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the Weatherization Assistance Program.

As the Ranking Member of the Senate Homeland Security Committee, I am committed to ensuring that our nation is as safe as possible and that government is prepared to respond to disasters. Maine certainly has had its share of natural disasters during the past year. This year, my homeland security priorities include renewing a port security law that I coauthored and strengthening security at labs containing dangerous pathogens.

Other priorities include supporting the vital work being done at Bath Iron Works, the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, and other defense-related businesses throughout Maine – all of which are making significant contributions to our national security. We must also continue to improve and expand access to affordable health care – particularly in our rural communities – expand aid for education, protect our environment.

While this is just a brief summary of my recent work in Washington over the past several months, please know that I will continue to work as hard as possible representing Maine in the U.S. Senate. I am grateful for many blessings, including the opportunity to continue representing Harpswell and Maine in the United States Senate.

If ever I can be of assistance to you, please contact my Portland office at 207-780-3575, or visit my website at <http://collins.senate.gov>.

Sincerely,

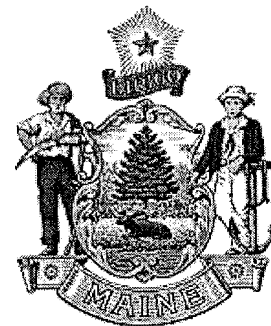


Susan M. Collins
United States Senator



124th Legislature
Senate of Maine
Senate District 10

Senator Stan Gerzofsky



Winter 2009

Dear Friends & Neighbors:

It is an honor to represent you, the citizens of Harpswell as your State Senator. Every year as the Legislative session approaches, I think of everything I must bring with me to Augusta as a legislator. I bring your cares, your concerns, your hopes for a brighter future for Maine; every important thing that you have shared with me throughout the summer and fall.

As we begin the 124th Legislative Session, we start a challenging journey. We must focus on finding a way to close the \$832 million projected budget gap, and protect the essential services that our most vulnerable citizens have come to rely on. Difficult times lie ahead, but I'm confident that both Democrats and Republicans will work together and rise to this challenge.

As you gather today, think about how public officials at all levels can work together on those issues that are most important to you and your family. I encourage you to take a trip to Augusta, tour the State House and witness the legislative process first hand. It is your State House and your government; I welcome you to come and learn more about how you can make a difference.

Also, please remember to apply for the Property Tax and Rent Refund program, also known as the circuit breaker program. This program makes property tax refunds available to most resident homeowners who are paying more than 4 percent of their income in property taxes. Nearly 200,000 Maine households qualify for a partial refund of property tax assessed and/or rent they paid in 2007. To receive an application, please contact my office at the State House and I will be happy to send the application right to your home. Call (207) 287-1515 or toll free at 1-800-423-6900 and mention you would like a "Circuit Breaker" application.

Once again, thank you for giving me the opportunity to represent our district in this great state, and more importantly, to serve you. Please know that I will work hard for our community.

I wish you and yours a healthy and happy 2009!

Sincerely,

Senator Stan Gerzofsky
District #10

287-1515 or toll-free 1-800-423-6900
www.mainesenate.org/gerzofsky



MESSAGE TO THE CITIZENS OF HARPSWELL

Dear Neighbors:

It is an honor to serve as your State Representative during the 124th session of the Maine State Legislature. As your voice in Augusta, I begin my fourth term with great passion and dedication.

Maine faces a challenging year in 2009. Similar to many other states, Maine is facing significant budgetary revenue reductions due to the economic downturn. Today more than ever, it is important that we continue to make government as efficient as possible, while preserving services for those less fortunate. However, we must also invest wisely in economic development and education so that our state's future remains bright.

Despite our many financial challenges, this year and next present many great opportunities. In addition to the two-year budget, we are also working on energy policy to increase building efficiency and alternative energy, while reducing our dependence on oil. We are also focusing on expanding access to affordable health care, improving education, job growth and tax reform. I am personally committed to facing and fighting the alarming increase in domestic violence, which tears at the fabric of our communities.

In my role as the House chair of the Marine Resources Committee, I am continuing to work to ensure Maine's fishing heritage is strong and thriving. I have also been appointed to serve on the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry Committee. My interest in this committee is not only about protecting our natural resource-based industries of fishing, farming and forestry, but also because our district includes one of Maine's busiest state parks.

I do not view my role as Representative to be one that is limited to Augusta. It is important to me to be present in the community and communicate with you directly.

Please do not ever hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns or if you need assistance with state government. I can be reached by e-mail at leilapercy@yahoo.com or by phone either at home, 389-2133, or at the State Capital, 1-800-423-2900.

Once again, I am honored and grateful for the opportunity to serve you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Leila Jane Percy".

Leila Jane Percy
State Representative

Affordable Housing Committee

The Affordable/Workforce Housing Committee currently has four voting members: Hilde Bird, Dan Boland, Hope Hilton and Paula Conley. The liaison from the Town is Town Planner Carol Tukey.

The Select Board, when it wrote the Committee's mission statement for 2006, gave the Committee the task of drafting an affordable housing ordinance. The Committee began discussion of this ordinance in November, 2006. Over the next year and a half, members studied ordinances and ordinance language from many communities in Maine and from communities across the country whose towns seemed demographically akin to Harpswell. The Committee sought the advice and counsel of the Planning Board, Town officials, and experts in the field of affordable housing and town planning. Based upon this research and these discussions, it made an initial determination of which aspects of all the documents would be most appropriate for the unique community of Harpswell and its future.

In 2008, the total focus was on writing an ordinance consistent with the mission statement. The Committee went through a number of drafts to develop an ordinance that would bring clarity and substance to a complex subject. It was decided to incorporate the affordable housing language under the current Basic Land Use Ordinances.

Initially, the plan was to have the final draft ordinance language completed by November to present to the Select Board and the Planning Board for their review before the end of 2008. However, the Committee is small. By December, a draft was ready, but it was felt that the process was not complete. It was important to have community feedback before finalizing a draft. The plan is to hold public hearings during the next year to obtain such input. The Committee also hopes to explore a partnership with Harpswell Community Housing Trust for education about affordable/ workforce housing. These activities cannot be accomplished in time for submission of a final draft ordinance to Town Meeting this spring.

The goal in 2009 is to complete the public feedback process. The Committee hopes to add more committee members to help achieve its 2009 goals and be ready for the 2010 Town Meeting.

Budget Advisory

The Budget Advisory Committee recommended to the Board of Selectmen a municipal budget consisting of \$4,048,885 to be raised from property taxes and \$39,032 from the use of carryovers. Additionally, the Committee recommended that \$ 650,000 be borrowed for the purpose of rehabilitating Ash Point Road and that this borrowing be supplemented with the use of carryover funds (approximately \$148,000). This recommended municipal budget complies with LD1, but excludes certain new and non-recurring requests which the Committee views as potentially beneficial. These items will require Town Meeting to vote to increase the LD1 limit.

The recommended 2009 appropriations decreased by \$92,398 or 2.2% from those for 2008.

In calculating compliance with LD1, the Committee has used a non-property tax revenue estimate of \$1,950,000 which when added back to the 2009 LD1 Levy Limit of \$2,103,780 results in a 2009 budget target of \$4,053,780. The appropriations to be raised are less than this target.

The recommended appropriations for 2009 include a 3% increase in salaries and wages and reflect no change in the employer/employee shares of the cost of health insurance. Further, there is no anticipated reduction in service levels. The Committee recommends continuing to contract for 2 marine patrol deputies, continuing the current relationship with the Curtis Memorial Library (although the Committee recommended a decrease in the requested appropriation) and continuing to contribute to social service agencies which benefit Town residents.

During 2008, certain reductions in employee compensation occurred as a result of voluntary separations, after which positions were either eliminated or restructured, and health insurance changed. These situations allowed for reductions in the 2009 budget. Additionally, the Town at the end of 2008 negotiated a less expensive contract for waste disposal and discontinued the contract for recycling center uniforms. Finally, the Committee recommended reductions in the amounts to be set aside for certain capital reserves and appropriated for road maintenance.

As a result of the significant (8.9%) reduction in estimated non-property tax revenues (\$1,950,000 for 2009 versus \$2,140,000 for 2008), only three new items were included in the LD1 compliant budget.

The new items in the 2009 recommended LD1 compliant budget are (1) \$30,839 for the upgrade of the Town's accounting software, (2) \$15,000 for the rehabilitation of the Potts Point pier and (3) \$5,000 for the development of zoning and performance standards for the proposed business areas of Mitchell Field. The Town has no option but to upgrade the accounting system as the system provider no longer supports the version currently used by the Town. The Potts Point pier is considered unsafe in its current condition and the Town has received certain recommendations and estimates from outside contractors as to the work required to rehabilitate it. The Committee recommended that the \$15,000 appropriation be supplemented with \$15,000 from the marine hazards reserve, if possible, to accomplish the repairs. The Mitchell Field request of \$5,000 will be the first step in implementing the marine business component of the Mitchell Field master plan.

Certain items, new in 2009, cannot be appropriated without exceeding LD1. With the exception of the wind turbine, which the Committee does not support, the Committee recommended that the Board consider asking Town Meeting to vote to exceed the LD1 limit in each of the following cases.

If the Town Meeting decides to pursue the question of the Brunswick/Harpswell boundary, some funds will likely be required. The request of up to \$5,000 for this purpose would appear to allow for at least an initial inquiry as to the process which would be required.

The Orr's Island Library request of \$10,000 in 2009 is part of a larger request for \$50,000 over 3 years for the expansion and renovation of the Library. The project will add space, improve energy efficiency, make improvements that reduce maintenance costs, provide ADA access and improve site drainage, landscaping and parking.

The Hamilton Place request will create a public/private partnership in the area of workforce housing. The benefits to the Town of this investment may not be measurable in the traditional sense, however, maintaining the diversity of the Town's population should be a priority for the Town.

The Committee does not support the Energy Task Force's request for \$50,000 to construct a wind turbine near the Town office. The project does not appear to be economically beneficial to the Town.

The Committee appreciates the efforts made by the entire staff in submitting 2009 funding requests which kept spending increases minimal. The administrative staff, as always, provided excellent assistance to the Committee in explaining budget items, answering requests for additional information and keeping the budget review process on track.

LD1 aside, the 2009 recommended appropriations, including the new, non-recurring items, are below those for 2008. This has been accomplished without a decrease in service levels and without requiring employees to accept reductions in pay or benefits.

Planning Board

In 2008 the Harpswell Planning Board gathered monthly for scheduled site visits and meetings. In addition to acting on applications and conducting reviews, the Board held workshops on proposed affordable housing", the "Open Space Plan" and state mandated changes and expansion limitations in shoreland zoning."

Much time and consideration has been given to the application by Tower Specialists, Inc., for the construction of a telecommunication tower to be located on Community Drive.

The Board would also like to acknowledge the loss of a valued member of our Board and our Town with the death of our friend and colleague Ken Cichon.

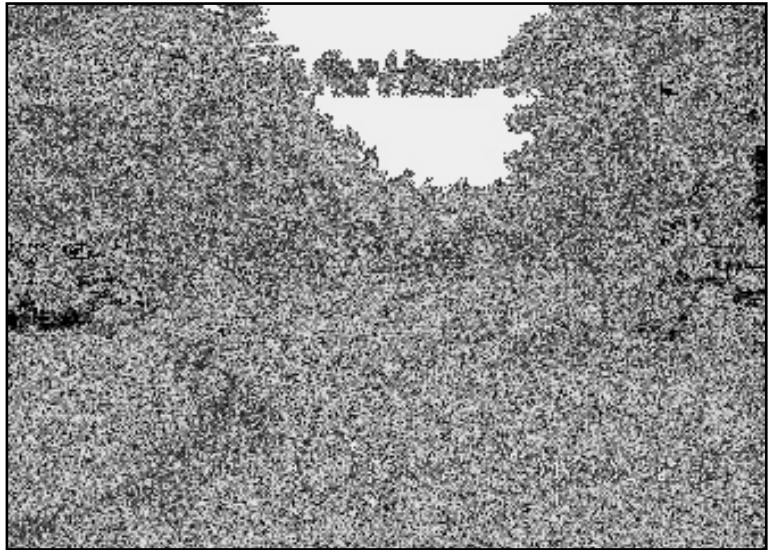
Board of Appeals

The Board of Appeals met five times in 2008 and heard two variance requests, two administrative appeals of decisions of the Code Enforcement Office, and one request for reconsideration of an administrative appeal. One variance was granted and one withdrawn by the applicant. One administrative appeal was granted and one denied; the request for reconsideration was denied.

The cooperation of the Code Enforcement Office and Planning Office are critical to the efficient functioning of the Board of Appeals. The Board benefits in particular from the able services of Planning Assistant Melissa Moretti and Code Enforcement Officer William Wells, and thanks them for their assistance.

Conservation Commission

Open Space Plan: The Conservation Commission is pleased to present an Open Space Plan for Harpswell to its citizens for consideration at Town Meeting on March 14, 2009. The Plan culminates a process initiated in May 2007 with information gleaned from two public forums and a mailed questionnaire. A draft plan was publicly presented for comment and fine tuning this past November.



The Open Space Plan suggests ways to protect a portion of undeveloped land, preserve the natural and scenic assets of the Town, and preserve the quality of living we enjoy in Harpswell. The Plan also outlines approaches to enhance recreational opportunities and contribute to the health of Harpswell's critical marine economy.

As the Committee talked with people and groups around town, it found that the majority of people like Harpswell the way it is and don't want to see it change. The Plan provides a framework for the future protection of Harpswell's areas deemed most valuable for their water quality and critical habitat. These areas are designated **Focus Areas** and comprise less than 40% of Harpswell's land. Most of the land in these 12 **Focus Areas** has limited development and owners have kept their areas in pristine condition,

As one of the major commercial fishing centers in Cumberland County, Harpswell is second only to Portland in volume and varieties of fish caught. Protection of the wetlands and salt marshes in the Focus Areas will ensure water quality which sustains the present fishing stock.

The importance of open space was addressed in the 1987 Comprehensive Plan. Development has occurred in waves and new dwellings have consumed over 900 parcels of undeveloped land since 1987. Change is noticeable to residents who have lived here during this period. Harpswell will continue to develop, but it is the Committee's hope that by planning, it can keep the most sensitive areas open and design development wisely.

The plan recognizes that privately owned property may be the principal asset of its owners and that it may have significant historic value to families. Also, many property owners want to preserve open space and the character of their town. The Plan suggests **voluntary** actions and possible incentives to be considered for property owners to voluntarily protect open space.

For those who have not had the opportunity to become familiar with the Plan, it is available electronically at the Town of Harpswell website at www.harpswell.maine.gov or by contacting Carol Tukey, Town Planner, at ctukey@town.harpswell.me.us or 207-833-5771. Copies are also available for review at the Curtis Memorial, Cundy's Harbor, and Orr's Island Libraries. For those who missed the public hearing, it is not too late to have questions answered before Town Meeting. The website also includes a Q&A section and a spot to ask questions directly.

Adopt-a-Road Program: Inaugurated in 2006, the Adopt-a-Road Program encourages residents and groups to recognize the advantages of litter-free roadways. The program has been well received and continues to grow with 37 individuals and/or groups committing to clean up over 100 miles of Harpswell's roads. Committee members are preparing for the annual Town Clean-Up, April 18th, Earth Day weekend. A map of the adopted roads and miles left for adoption is on the town website. If you or your group would like to become part of the program, you can pick up a registration form at the Town Office.

Composter Program: Since the program began in 2004, nearly 400 composters have been purchased by Harpswell residents. The Commission continues to work with the Recycling Center to offer the "Earth Machine" a compost bin that turns kitchen scraps, grass clippings, and leaves into a dark, earthy-smelling product. It is estimated that up to 25% of an average household's waste is food waste and yard trimmings. Not only do compost users benefit from the rich compost, but composting cuts Town costs by reducing waste that has to be trucked out of town. You may order your composter at Town Meeting or by dropping off a completed form at the A. Dennis Moore Recycling Center through May 1, 2009. Forms are also available at www.harpswell.maine.gov. Summer residents may submit their orders now via the mail. Composters ordered by summer residents will be held at the Recycling Center until they arrive at the start of the summer.

Role of the Conservation Commission: Established in 1970 by vote at Town Meeting, the Harpswell Conservation Commission has the responsibility of conducting research and giving advice that will help better utilize, protect and plan for the Town's natural resources and open areas. The Conservation Commission seeks to coordinate its activities with existing Town committees and departments, and with other conservation bodies. To this end, input from the land use committees was actively solicited in the preparation of the Open Space Plan.

Communications Advisory

Cable Television Franchise Agreement

The primary responsibility of the Communications Committee is to assist the Town in negotiating renewal of the cable television franchise agreement with Comcast Corporation. The most recent agreement was entered into October 31, 1998 with Susquehanna Communications, and was thereafter transferred, with the authorization of the Board of Selectmen, to Comcast when Susquehanna's operations in Maine were purchased by that company.

The term of the current agreement was extended from October 31, 2008 to January 31, 2009 pursuant to mutual agreement between Comcast and the Town, on the recommendation of the Committee while negotiations continued with Comcast.

- The Committee identified areas of key concern to residents and subscribers in Harpswell and is attempting to reach agreement with Comcast on these. Most significant are: Ensuring that advances in technology in coming years will be promptly extended to subscribers in Harpswell. The Committee is very aware of rapid strides being made in communications technology; for example, Comcast's "Triple Play" – video, telephonic and internet services bundled into one package – presently offered to Comcast subscribers in Kittery.
- Reducing the current "density" requirement from 18 housing units per mile to something lower, and lengthening the distance Comcast will extend service from a "drop" from the current approximately 300 feet to something greater.
- Upgrading and enhancing communications among Harpswell's three fire stations and two elementary schools through the cable system.
- Obtaining state-of-the-art video and communications equipment to improve service, both from the Town Office, and Harpswell Community Television.

Early discussions did provide simpler and less expensive suspension of cable service for seasonal residences. It is hoped final agreement on renewal of the franchise agreement can be achieved prior to the Annual Town Meeting in March 2009, although that is not certain as of the date of this report.

Communications Tower

A tower is to be built on Town-owned land behind the Recycling Center by Tower Specialists and at this writing two carriers have an expressed interest in using it; AT&T and US Cellular are expected to move equipment to the site in the spring. Verizon has a roaming arrangement with US Cellular so it may end up being one of the users of the shared towers and Verizon customers should then see a great improvement in their service. Nevertheless, efforts are being made to get Verizon on the tower as well. Harpswell will benefit from the tower in multiple ways: First, the Town will receive \$12,000 per year from Tower Specialists with an additional \$6,000 per year for each additional paying carrier from the third on. Harpswell will also be paid property taxes on the value of the tower and equipment and get free use of the top portion of the tower, primarily for emergency communications. All maintenance, insurance and other responsibilities will be covered by Tower Specialists while Harpswell receives the benefits described above. The Committee was very ably assisted by Melissa Moretti from the Town staff.

Comprehensive Plan Implementation

The Comprehensive Plan Implementation Committee met 13 times in 2008. Following the defeat of the 40-foot setback and subdivision clustering proposals, the Committee concluded that more specific and detailed information had to be developed for Harpswell's highly variegated topography before new proposals were brought to the public for approval. In this regard, two items were completed and a third initiated. In August, thanks to the support of the Selectmen, bid requests were made for the following scope of services: "Establish measurable criteria for defining districts and creating district boundaries based on factual evidence of the land's capacity to support growth and appropriate land use patterns. Using these criteria, identify Harpswell districts; define their uses and sustainable residential densities. Assist CPIC in recommending final growth districts after consideration of public response." This work was awarded to Spatial Alternatives, Judy Colby George and Elizabeth Della Valle, principals.

During the Fall, two critical studies were completed:

The Ransom Environmental Consultants, "Drinking Water and Sanitary Septic Study" reviewed and updated the 1982 Gerber and Rand, "Ground Water Analysis" and the 2001 Wright-Pierce, "Drinking Water and Sanitary Septic Study."

The Conservation Committee completed its Open Space Plan. Both studies will provide invaluable data to the Committee and consultants in 2009, as recommendations are prepared for public review.

It is sad to report the death, on September 23, of Ken Cichon, Committee Chairman. The absence of his intelligence, knowledge and good humor represents a great loss; he is sorely missed.

Energy Task Force

In light of this year's energy crisis, the Selectmen created the Energy Task Force to explore and recommend projects and practices by which to decrease Harpswell's expenses, reduce its dependence on foreign energy and lower its contribution to global pollution.

The Task Force is cooperating with the Town in assessing the Efficiency Maine energy audit of the Town Office. The audit includes a number of recommendations to reduce the energy load at the municipal building. These cover lighting, heating and equipment usage. The Task Force is actively pursuing these recommendations.

The Task Force is also working on a wind turbine ordinance for Harpswell. Although it will not have one ready for a vote at this year's Town Meeting, it will assure that Harpswell is ready for private wind turbines as soon as possible.

The Task Force looked into a number of possible energy production projects including solar and wind. Except for conservation, which is already being explored, wind seemed to be the most cost-effective alternative. Task Force members visited Saco to investigate its wind turbine and energy conservation measures. The Task Force found a company willing to work with Harpswell and discovered grant opportunities to help pay for the purchase and construction of a fifteen thousand watt wind turbine. Unlike a large (two-million watt) utility turbine, the smaller unit would be located behind the Town Office and would provide power for the municipal building when the wind is blowing while generating power to sell to the “grid” when the office is closed or is using less electricity than the turbine is producing. Because the turbine would generate clean electricity, Harpswell would earn energy credits which could be sold on the open market. The project requires that the Town Meeting approve the concept and provide some funding toward it. Without these steps the grants are not available. The Task Force is committed to seeking funds beyond the municipal budget and believes that, given the energy climate, there are, and will be, opportunities. If Harpswell fails to acquire the additional funds needed for the project, all money appropriated by Town Meeting would revert to the Town’s general fund.

Governance

The Selectmen formed the Governance Committee this year to look at Harpswell’s current government and make recommendations “that enhance the operations of Harpswell’s current government configuration ...” Past efforts to change aspects of Town government had been unsuccessful and the Selectmen sought a study of specific issues, possible solutions and problems inherent in those solutions.

The Committee spent its time in research and debate. It first looked at the current Recall Ordinance and agreed that some changes would make it more workable. The Committee operated under the assumption that having an ordinance on the books makes the recall process clear and assures fairness. Recommended changes included: eliminating a list of specific grounds for recall in favor of a more general statement, reducing the number of signatures required to launch a recall from 33 to 20 per cent of the number of votes cast in the last gubernatorial election and reducing from two-thirds to 55 per cent the size of the majority vote required to effect removal.

After considering issues around electing or appointing various officials, the Committee recommended that the road commissioner be appointed. This seemed like a very logical recommendation. Appointing a road commissioner would give the Town an opportunity to acquire a qualified employee through its standard hiring practices, a process designed to select and hire the best possible candidate. Over the years the road commissioner’s job has increased in complexity and the varying expectations for the position have become more and more difficult to reconcile. A road commissioner must not only understand roads and culverts but the budgeting and work scheduling process required to accomplish the tasks and must possess the skills to deal with the public.

A seemingly more controversial yet perhaps more obvious question was whether to appoint the treasurer. On the one hand, a professional treasurer with training and education in the many aspects of municipal finances gives Harpswell a great advantage when handling its multi-million dollar budget. The current Treasurer has been a tremendous asset and Harpswell has been lucky in that regard. The Town cannot count on this luck in the future. The only permitted requirements for an elected treasurer are that he or she be a resident of the state of Maine and at least 18 years of age.

On the other hand, the election of Town officials provides a check on the power of the selectmen, and maintains a tradition that has served the Town well to-date. An elected treasurer can be recalled by the electorate, but no such mechanism is available when the treasurer has been appointed. With the treasurer question, the Committee simply presented the Selectmen with the arguments on each side of the question, and made no recommendation.

Whether any particular question should be voted by secret ballot or on the floor of Town Meeting is a policy question with which the Committee was asked to assist the Selectmen. The Committee believes that, in general, maximum use should be made of Town Meeting as the place for decisions and secret ballots should be kept to a minimum. The Committee noted that when the ballot is used, absentee voting often begins prior to the public hearing. There was a sense on the Committee that land use ordinances, the borrowing of funds and certain other issues should be considered for a secret ballot in order to provide an opportunity for the maximum number of voters to record their opinions.

Fire & Rescue Committee

History again was repeated as Harpswell was plunged into darkness due to another ice storm. The ice storm of 2008 left most of Harpswell without power for several days. This storm required our Fire & Rescue personnel to respond to a variety of calls from trees down on roadways to vehicle and structure fires. These volunteer Fire & Rescue members, without hesitation, did what was necessary to protect the lives and property of our community during this event, often at the sacrifice of their own families.

This year marked the formation of an Emergency Services Vehicle Committee to work with the town staff to develop Request for Proposals to acquire new emergency vehicles for Harpswell's three Departments. The process was very successful due in part to the diversity & talent in the make up of the committee. The result was a new ambulance ordered for the Orrs/Bailey Island Department and a new Tank Truck chassis being fitted to an existing Tanker body for Harpswell Neck Fire & Rescue.

The following are the response totals for 2008

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>FIRE</u>	<u>EMS</u>
Cundy's Harbor	81	114
Harpswell Neck	78	121
Orrs's/Bailey	<u>51</u>	<u>119</u>
Totals	210	354

Library Committee

The Library Committee was originally appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The purpose is to assess Town wide library needs and to help residents become more aware of the services, activities and events provided by the libraries for the Town.

The Library Committee meets on a regular basis. It is made up of interested Harpswell residents from all parts of Town. Represented, also are the Orr's Island Library, the Cundy's Harbor Library, and the Curtis Memorial Library. The current chairman is David Hackett.

All three Libraries offer Children's Summer Programs, Book Fairs and Fundraisers. Curtis Memorial Library's many offerings for children, teens and adults are enjoyed by Harpswell citizens.

Curtis Memorial Library holds a one day event at the Kellogg Church each summer and has installed a book drop at the Town Office. Curtis Memorial Library offers Community Health Information Partnership (CHIP) books and Cornerstones of Science information to the smaller Libraries.

Orr's Island Library and the Cundy's Harbor Library continually expand their services-adding videos, audio books and local Maine books to their collections. They are improving internet and wireless connections and adjusting hours to meet community needs.

Orr's Island Library offers computer classes and Cundy's Harbor Library now has Notary Public services. Both of the smaller Libraries are looking into expanding and/or improving their building space.

Fostering and facilitating strong support and cooperation for the three Libraries continues to be the focus of the Committee. All three Libraries publicize events for each other. It is during the monthly meetings that much information is passed on. Meeting are open to the public and can be found on the Town's website.

Harbor & Waterfront

The Harbor and Waterfront Committee was established to oversee the marine activities within the Town of Harpswell, to work closely with the Harbormaster, and to act as an advisory body to the Board of Selectmen.

The Committee has taken a survey of people's issues with the Harbor and Waterfront Ordinance and with the supervision of moorings. The survey was available on the Town website.

The Committee developed amendments in 2008 to the Harbor and Waterfront Ordinance and these were presented to the Town Meeting where they were adopted and has also considered the issue of Potts Point Landing and the dinghies that are tied up there. Finally, the Committee has considered whether and how to develop a harbor management plan.

Pipeline Easement Advisory

The Selectmen established the Pipeline Easement Advisory Committee in 2006 with the objective of returning pipeline easements to property owners without incurring liability to the Town or to the property owners. The Committee and Selectmen agreed that return of the easements is best accomplished following removal of the asbestos-covered pipes by the federal government. The Navy was persuaded to commit \$9.4 million for pipeline removal.

In August, the Committee and Selectmen met with Navy representatives and their contractor to receive an update on design and engineering studies being performed. Environmental assessments and necessary permits are being obtained by the Navy in anticipation of pipeline removal.

Actual removal of the pipes is on schedule to begin in the spring of 2009 and could take two years to complete. Before the construction process begins, the Navy will convene a public meeting for abutters and other interested parties.

Once the pipes are removed, the government easements should be extinguished and the Harpswell landowners along the current right of way should have their full property rights returned. The Committee will monitor events until this process is successfully concluded.

Mitchell Field Implementation

The Committee began its year of work with a new name, new mission statement, and new members on the Committee. This year, along with planning, Committee members have volunteered their time to make improvements to the field. They have removed the fence along the shore providing access to the south beach area, and are mowing the area by the water. Members have removed the old fence and constructed a new one on the Route 123 side of the Field. CMP donated the fence poles. Many events have taken place on Mitchell Field this year--the Scouts camped out and held their annual dinner there for the community, the Harpswell Festival held yet another celebration on the Field--perhaps the most beautiful to date and the organization Fishing Families used the Field for its annual dinner and witnessed a spectacular sunset.

Volunteer hours have been estimated at 1500 this year. There are four benches along the north perimeter walking path. The perimeter fence has been trimmed of invasive trees/branches and the connecting paths/roads have never been in better shape. Work on the Pier--clearing debris and making it safe for recreational use next summer has begun. The Committee plans to have the center road open for vehicular traffic by late spring or early summer. There are a number of other projects programmed for the spring and summer: Building an information kiosk near the front gate, new picnic tables, additional benches for water viewing, and continued beautification initiatives, to name just a few.

Looking to the future for development in the marine business zones, the Committee is working on performance standards and zoning changes, writing grants for infrastructure upgrades, building demolition and construction of the boat ramp. Additionally, it is partnering with the Harpswell Heritage Land Trust to create community gardens.

There are multiple opportunities to join in the Committee at Mitchell Field as it works to implement the master plan. These opportunities will be advertised at the Town Office, on Harpswell TV, in the Anchor and through contact with Committee members. Please join in.

Town Lands

This year brought many projects for the Town Lands Committee. The remodeling of the Giant's Stairs path, developing a complete Town lands map for the Town Office lobby and seeing the Tide Mill property redeveloped for better public access are the highlights. The Town Lands Committee worked closely with other Town Committees to accomplish this work.

Next year's projects include a brochure of all Town Lands and their uses, developing a trail plan for the Devil's Back property and promoting a stronger Town Lands Steward Program.

The Committee encourages all Harpswell residents to utilize their Town lands.

Marine Resources

In 2008, the Marine Resources Committee was involved with accommodating the many changes in rules made by the Maine Department of Marine Resources (DMR). The main area of change was water quality and its effects on closures in various coves in Town. DMR went through several staff changes. These included Laura Livingston, our long time area Field Specialist who was replaced by Anna Bourakovsky, a Scientist 1; and long time area Biologist Don Card who retired after serving 20 years, and was replaced by Ronald Aho.

Once again, the Committee is working on the closures, resulting from poor water quality that affects productive clam flats. The DMR did extensive shoreline surveying in Harpswell in 2008. In 2009, when the reports are complete, the Committee will work toward correcting any problems found. Several problems causing poor water quality in some very productive coves have already been identified and addressed. The Code Enforcement Office is very active and helpful with this process. Water quality will continue to be closely monitored.

Every year, each commercial shellfish harvester in Harpswell is required to donate time, on two dates, to conservation efforts. In 2008, the time was spent reseeding coves, doing resource surveys, and shoreline cleanup. Each year, the area biologist does a review of clam management performance. Harpswell is at the top for overall performance. Each program is also evaluated on reporting compliance.

As always, the Committee encourages anyone interested in becoming a member of this Committee to contact the Selectmen's Office. Committee meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7pm.

In closing, the Committee would like to acknowledge and thank Arthur Dodge for his years of service in water sampling and as Chairman of the Marine Resources Committee for over 20 years.

Sign Task Force

The creation of the Sign Ordinance Task Force in October of 2007 arose from concerns over the impact of the Town Sign Ordinance on local businesses. The Board of Selectmen appointed a five member committee of both business owners and others to study existing sign regulations and their effect on local businesses with the objective of developing a report of its findings and any possible recommendations for change.

The Task Force devoted many hours to research of current federal, state and local sign laws and their evolution. In the acquisition of factual and practical information, the Task Force consulted various professionals at the state and local level, including the Harpswell Town attorney, Town government officials here and in bordering and comparable towns, public safety officials, Harpswell business owners and town citizens. The Task Force invited and received public comment and community participation through notices on the Town website, Harpswell Community Television, The Anchor and direct mailings to business owners. The Sign Task Force determined that a need existed to address certain aspects in Harpswell's Sign Ordinance which were identified to be burdensome to businesses in town. During this time of comprehensive study, various areas of importance were recognized but due to inadequate time only a few were chosen to concentrate on for the upcoming recommendations for revision of the Town Sign Ordinance.

The Sign Task Force, in unanimous agreement, presented its report in January of 2008 with recommendations for amendments to the Harpswell Town Sign Ordinance and they were overwhelmingly approved by the voters at the Annual Town Meeting in 2008. These small changes reflected a more balanced approach in sign regulation and addressed key factors appropriate for a rural community such as ours, including the safety of motorists and pedestrians, reasonable advertising opportunities and the protection of scenic beauty.

The Sign Task Force was approved for continuation by The Board of Selectmen and met regularly in 2008, focusing its efforts on the remaining issues of importance that were established the previous year. The Sign Task Force provided the Board of Selectmen with a second report of unanimous agreement in January of 2009 which included recommendations for further amendments to the Town Sign Ordinance that will be carried forward into the new year's work.

The Sign Task Force Committee is grateful to Town Planner Carol Tukey and the rest of the staff at the Town Office for their assistance and to liaison, Selectwoman Amy Haible for her thoughtful guidance.

Solid Waste Committee

During 2008 the Solid Waste Committee continued to assess options for converting the Town's recycling system to a "single stream" model. Single stream is a system where all recyclable materials are collected in one container at a town's recycling center and shipped to a facility that sorts the items into marketable categories of goods. For the residents of Harpswell, single stream would mean no longer having to sort recyclables at home or, as many do, or in the back of their truck or car at the A. Dennis Moore Recycling Center (DMRC).

The Committee feels that single stream will improve on Harpswell's already admirable recycling rate, and is currently evaluating the relative merits of using EcoMaine or Casella as the provider of services. EcoMaine is a municipality-owned, non-profit operation located in Portland, while Casella is a for-profit company with facilities in Massachusetts. Recent changes (as in decline) in the recycled materials markets only make this analysis more interesting.

Along with single stream recycling, a pay-per-bag system for regular trash is being assessed for its relative cost vs. benefit under various scenarios. The Solid Waste Committee feels strongly that single stream recycling and pay-per-bag should be implemented simultaneously should the Town decide to move ahead. The goal, of course, is to reduce the amount of trash going to very expensive landfills and to save the Town money in the long run, although shorter-term costs may go up or remain neutral depending on recycling markets and fuel costs.

The Committee would like to thank Jim Gordon for his fine years of service managing the A. Dennis Moore Recycling Center. He was always ready to help customers unload their junk with a smile and a quip, and his broom handling skills were second to none. Jim forged the DMRC into the high quality operation it is today. The Committee is now enjoying working with Fred Cantu, the new DMRC manager. Fred brings new energy and perspective to the intriguing world of Harpswell's trash.

Cundy's Harbor Library

After years of planning, and preparation, 2008 was the year Cundy's Harbor Library finally got its addition. R. A. Webber & Son's excavation machines broke ground on April 7, and a tumultuous summer of building by Rob Miller Construction and a host of subcontractors followed. The climax came at the October 23 meeting of the Library's Board of Directors, when Bob Elliott (of "Bob & Ray" fame) returned to perform the ceremonial "First Flush" to mark the first installation of indoor plumbing at Cundy's Harbor Library since its founding in 1959. The addition, featuring the wheelchair-accessible restroom, a spacious new children's area, a lower-level multi-purpose workroom and a wheelchair access ramp for the front door, opened to the public November 1, 2008. Exterior trim and painting remain to be done in the Spring of 2009. The progress of construction is viewable on the Library's website at <http://www.cundysharbor.lib.me.us/Addition2.html>.

Funding for the Library's addition came from the generous contributions of our patrons in response to the 2007 Building Campaign, and from grants from the Stephen and Tabitha King

Foundation, the Bailey Family Foundation, and the William and Mary Greve Foundation. The Library is also grateful for the generosity of the suppliers and trades people who provided building materials and services at significant discounts. In particular we are indebted to R. A. Webber & Sons, Downeast Energy & Building Supply and Temple Well Drilling.

In addition, to the Building Campaign, the Library successfully continued the general fund-raising traditions of prior years, including community breakfasts in January and May, the annual book sale in July, food sales at the polls on Election Day and at the Cundy's Harbor Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary Christmas Fair, and an Annual Appeal mailing to patrons and donors in November. Those programs continued to provide the revenue needed over and above the Town's generous allocation of funds to cover the Library's operating budget.

In spite of being closed for two months due to construction, patronage and circulation at the Library were up significantly from prior years. In 2008, the Library saw over 23% more visitors, loaned out 20% more books, audiobooks, and videos, and added more than twice as many new patrons as in 2007. Through purchases, donations, and the return to circulation of stored books (made possible by new shelf space), it was also able to add over 700 titles to the catalog.

Cundy's Harbor Library had an eventful year in other regards, too. Two people, important in recent Library history, bid us farewell. In March, librarian Pam Kenney, who played a big part in fundraising for the addition, left the Library to concentrate on her growing new business, and was replaced by Samuel Schwartz. In October, board member Rosanna Welner, who had been a driving force in the effort to realize the dream of the new addition, announced she would leave the Library's Board of Directors when her term expired in December. Both Pam and Rosanna will be missed.

The Library continues to be an active participant in the Cundy's Harbor community. Sam Schwartz, like Pam Kenney before him, is a Maine Notary Public, and the Library continues to offer free notary services. Working around the builders, the Library offered a six-week Summer Reading Program, "Catch the Reading Bug." Ten local children took part in the program, which included a trip to the Field Road beach lobster hatchery and a visit from the Chewonki Foundation's "Bugmobile" traveling insect zoo. Since September, the Library has also partnered with Harpswell Islands School to provide a story hour for the K/1 combined classes every Thursday. The library also began offering Saturday morning story hours during the Christmas vacation week.

2009 promises to be an equally active year, as work continues to make the best use of the new space to offer more and better services to the community. In January, the Library will offer three more community breakfasts at the Cundy's Harbor Community Hall. The Library will participate in the Midcoast Community Read program, and plans a summer reading program as well. Make sure to keep track of the events calendar at the Library's website.

Samuel Schwartz, Librarian
Jody Watson, Secretary

Sue Hawkes, President
Pam Bichrest, Treasurer

Orr's Island Library

The Orr's Island Library has served the Town of Harpswell well since its inception in 1900, and the dedication of the current building in 1905. It is primarily a reading and lending library, with a significant book collection, as well as substantial collections of audio books, videos and DVDs available for circulation. It has wireless internet capability, and two new computers are available for on-line research. The Library is open Mondays and Wednesdays from 1 p.m to 6 p.m and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. throughout the year. In 2008, it served 4,143 visitors including those who participated in the summer children's programs.

The Library has always been aware of the need to preserve and expand its collection of books and documents pertaining to local and Maine history, much of which is housed in the designated "Robert York Maine History" room. Recently, the Library was awarded a grant of \$1,000 by the Maine Antiques Dealers Endowment Fund to assist in the preservation and conservation of its valuable historic documents for future generations of residents and visitors. The reconstruction and renovation of the historic Cribstone Bridge has provided another example of showcasing the community's past: An exhibit of photos taken by local residents during the construction of the original bridge from 1926 to 1928, has been mounted in the Library's central room.

The Library facility is available to community organizations for meetings and workshops. An active book club has been meeting on Friday mornings, and is taking part in the current Midcoast Community Read which will be reading and discussing Barbara Kingsolver's account of a year in the life of her family as they bought, prepared and ate only locally produced food: *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle: A Year of Food Life*. A workshop for knitters is now being organized as well, and interested residents are asked to sign up at the Library.

All of these activities have been taking place in a facility that is bursting at the seams. The Board of Trustees has unanimously approved a renovation and expansion project that would improve the function of the Library by updating existing facilities, and adding new spaces to expand its non-fiction collections. The plan provides an additional 800 square feet for book and media storage on the main level. The current storage space on ground level is inadequate, and not weather-proof. The proposed plan will provide handicap access and will meet ADA requirements. A new main entry stairway and vestibule will comply with life safety codes. Other parts of the plan involve minimizing maintenance costs by providing a new insulated roof, new efficient heating, and updated electrical systems including improved lighting.

The main reading room will be restored to its original design, uncovering a handsome vaulted beadboard sheathing now hidden by a deteriorating dropped ceiling. Improved site drainage, landscaping and parking arrangements will make the grounds safer for all. The project is expected to be completed within two years, and the Library will be open during that time.

The Town of Harpswell's support is vital to the Library, and its Trustees and staff thank everyone for the support that has enabled it to grow during the past century, and for the support for this project that will enable the Library to continue providing its valuable service to all of Harpswell.

Roberta Floccher, President Joanne Rogers, Librarian

Curtis Memorial Library

The past year has been a busy one at Curtis Library!

- We had 769 library programs that attracted over 17,000 people to the Library.
- We had 240,353 library visits, making us one of the busiest libraries in Maine.
- 270 volunteers contributed more than 5,500 hours of support to the library. The jobs ranged from repairing books to building fires on Sunday afternoons to helping with our computer systems. We couldn't do all that we do without the help and support of these citizens.
- The Library's circulation of materials continues to grow. In the first six months of 2008-2009, the number of books and other items that went out of the Library increased by 14% versus a year ago.
- Our computers continue to be heavily used, with over 69,000 Internet sessions executed – an increase of 15.5% over a year ago.
- The Library works hard at fundraising, raising more than \$80,000 in gifts to the Annual Book Fund in 2007-2008.

We would like to thank the citizens of Harpswell for their continued support of Curtis. Your participation in this institution has been a long tradition and one that we hope continues far into the future. To that point, the following are some of the key reasons why continued financial support of Curtis by Harpswell residents is important:

- By financially supporting the Library, Harpswell is ensuring that every member of its community, regardless of their income, has equal access to information that they need to manage their lives e.g. information about employment, health, finances, personal issues, community issues, education. Equal access to information is one of the core values of our democracy.
- The Library provides a wide array of services, far beyond just lending books. In a tight economy, it provides access to entertainment, relaxation, community connection, education, computers and the Internet - all free to card-holders – and those resources are available 7 days a week.
- Harpswell users represent over 13% of the Library's cardholders. Yet the community pays 10% of the municipal support of the Library and less than 9% of total operating costs. This is a smart financial investment.
- Harpswell gets an outstanding return on its investment in the Library. In 2007-2008 the community paid \$108,378 for access to a collection of over 144,460 items, worth more than \$3.5 million.

Bottom-line, Harpswell residents are able to use an outstanding facility at a very low cost!

We look forward to another outstanding year of continuing this relationship.

Elisabeth Doucett, Library Director

Harpswell Community Broadcasting Corporation

HCBC would like to give heartfelt thanks to long-serving board members Bob Waddle and George Swallow, who retired after many years helping to guide your community television station. HCBC welcomes Dave Mercier who brings a fresh perspective and new energy.

This marks the tenth year in the television facility on Community Drive. The construction of this building was made possible by the incredible outpouring of money and volunteers that is remarkable yet almost commonplace in the community of Harpswell. On December 12, 1999, in a special live broadcast and ceremony, the then-new television studio was dedicated to Ron Johnson and Jim Weir, who were instrumental in getting the station going and setting the groundwork to keep it going. HCBC has been at the very center of happenings in Harpswell.

With healthy-living programs created in the studio, old movies, government meetings, talk shows about interesting local subjects, HCBC has striven to present the best that community television has to offer.

Maine musicians count on Harpswell Community Television as an outlet for their talents and area non-profits find support in Channel 14's outreach to the greater Harpswell region.

This year, broadcasters will switch from the old analog method of transmission to the new digital format. Low-power stations like ours are not required to switch, but the life-span of our technology will force the station to convert to digital eventually. This will be an opportunity to replace and upgrade our system to provide a clearer and more reliable signal to our viewers. Over the years, HCBC have set aside part of the funds required for this upgrade. As Harpswell is negotiating a new franchise agreement with Comcast, the Town's cable provider, HCBC will stand to gain more funding for equipment; but the station's needs are greater than can be provided by this grant. HCBC doesn't want to ask the municipal government for more, so it is counting on you, as viewers and owners of the station, to help. HCBC is aware that the economy leaves little money for anything except necessities, but it is certain that Channel 14 is an essential part of the lives of many of our residents. Watch for a letter from community television in the mail and consider joining your friends and neighbors in supporting and growing the best small station in Maine.

Harpswell is known nationally for its community television station which is recognized in Maine as the best. HCBC stands alone as the only Public, Educational, Governmental (PEG) television station to broadcast over the air. The station's programs are cablecast by many of Maine's small stations which appreciate HCBC production standards, quality, program content, and community values. If you might be interested in television, how it works, or how you might help, stop by the station, or call at 833-2363 or e-mail us at hvt14@harpswelltv.org.

In our tenth year HCBC is determined to give you even more to be proud of. HCBC wants to hear from you about your likes and dislikes. The more the community is involved the better the station will be.

Tom Allen – President	David I. Chipman – Vice President	Lynda DeHaan – Secretary
Linda Strickland – Treasurer	Donna Frisoli – Station Manager	Sharon Strachan - Assistant

Harpwell Historical Society

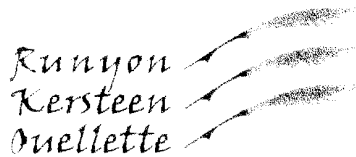
The Harpswell Historical Society is alive and well in its 31st year. This past year has seen an increase in both membership and interest in the Society's goals. In 2009 the Society hopes to increase the times that the Museum will be open.

The Harpswell Historical Society Museum is now in its 9th year. Please find the time to visit. You will find many old things to see. It will be open on Memorial Day and in July and August on Sundays from 2 to 4. It is also open by appointment (833-6322).

The Harpswell Historical Society and the Sebascodegan Garden club wish to say that the ownership of the East Harpswell Baptist Church has been transferred to the Harpswell Historical Society.

The Harpswell Historical Society, in agreement with the Town of Harpswell, has the responsibility for the continued care and maintenance of the Old Town Meeting House, the Town Pound and the Hearse House. The Society will aid those individuals and organizations with interest in using these facilities.

David Hackett III
President



Certified Public Accountants and Business Consultants

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial statements of the government activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Harpswell, Maine as of and for the year ended December 31, 2008, which collectively comprise the Town of Harpswell, Maine's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated February 4, 2009.

The accompanying summary financial information (listed below) represents excerpts from the Town's complete financial statements and therefore is not a presentation in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

- ✓ Statement 4
- ✓ Exhibit A-1
- ✓ Exhibit A-2
- ✓ Exhibit B-2

In our opinion, the accompanying summary financial information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the portion of the basic financial statements from which it has been derived.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Runyon Kersteen Ouellette".

February 4, 2009
South Portland, Maine

TOWN OF HARPSWELL, MAINE
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Governmental Funds
For the year ended December 31, 2008

	General	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues:			
Taxes	\$ 11,642,052	-	11,642,052
Intergovernmental	288,498	-	288,498
Fines and violations	101,439	-	101,439
Miscellaneous	551,521	183,532	735,053
Total revenues	12,583,510	183,532	12,767,042
Expenditures:			
Current:			
General government	1,139,500	-	1,139,500
Public works	863,028	-	863,028
Protection and safety	816,233	-	816,233
Health and welfare	29,885	-	29,885
Cultural and recreation	206,936	62,750	269,686
Education	7,445,553	-	7,445,553
County taxes	1,031,777	-	1,031,777
Overlay/abatements	9,209	-	9,209
Debt service	627,245	-	627,245
Capital and special projects	124,864	346,284	471,148
Total expenditures	12,294,230	409,034	12,703,264
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expend	289,280	(225,502)	63,778
Other financing sources (uses):			
Proceeds from long-term debt	500,000	-	500,000
Transfers (to) from other funds	(698,289)	698,289	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	(198,289)	698,289	500,000
Net change in fund balances	90,991	472,787	563,778
Fund balances, beginning of year as restated	3,746,604	363,410	4,110,014
Fund balances, end of year	\$ 3,837,595	836,197	4,673,792

TOWN OF HARPSWELL, MAINE
Comparative Balance Sheets
General Fund
December 31, 2008 and 2007

	2008	2007
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 4,351,098	3,750,055
Receivables:		
Taxes	441,899	517,179
Tax liens and acquired properties	61,876	61,708
Other	42,576	43,491
Notes receivable	50,000	75,000
Prepaid items	31,149	13,687
Total assets	\$ 4,978,598	4,461,120
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	67,210	122,959
Taxes paid in advance	19,326	8,457
Deferred revenues	218,270	215,000
Interfund payables:		
Special Revenue	38,916	89,983
Capital Projects	797,281	278,117
Total liabilities	1,141,003	714,516
Fund balance:		
Reserved for long-term receivable	50,000	75,000
Unreserved:		
Designated for subsequent years expenditures	428,123	444,018
Undesignated	3,359,472	3,227,586
Total fund balance	3,837,595	3,746,604
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$ 4,978,598	4,461,120

TOWN OF HARPSWELL, MAINE
General Fund
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
Budget and Actual (Budgetary Basis of Accounting)
For the year ended December 31, 2008

	Budgeted amounts		Actual	Variance positive (negative)
	Original	Final		
Revenues:				
Taxes:				
Property taxes	\$ 10,629,814	10,629,814	10,630,132	318
Interest and fees on property taxes	20,000	20,000	28,461	8,461
Excise taxes and registration fees	1,030,000	1,030,000	983,459	(46,541)
Total taxes	11,679,814	11,679,814	11,642,052	(37,762)
Intergovernmental:				
State revenue sharing	160,000	160,000	166,803	6,803
Local road assistance	45,300	45,300	45,300	-
Homestead exemption	57,877	57,877	57,883	6
Tree growth	10,000	10,000	7,060	(2,940)
General assistance	5,700	5,700	6,388	688
Veterans exemption	2,500	2,500	3,026	526
Other	2,500	2,500	2,038	(462)
Total intergovernmental	283,877	283,877	288,498	4,621
Fines and violations	-	-	101,439	101,439
Miscellaneous:				
Interest earned	112,000	112,000	93,357	(18,643)
Cable TV franchise fee	45,000	45,000	58,065	13,065
Licenses, fees and permits	157,000	157,000	139,903	(17,097)
Recycling center and disposal fees	225,000	225,000	220,133	(4,867)
Donations and gifts	10,796	10,796	21,584	10,788
Sale of property	1,000	1,000	2,563	1,563
Unclassified	4,000	4,000	15,916	11,916
Total miscellaneous	554,796	554,796	551,521	(3,275)
Total revenues	12,518,487	12,518,487	12,583,510	65,023

TOWN OF HARPSWELL, MAINE
General Fund
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
Budget and Actual (Budgetary Basis of Accounting), Continued
For the year ended December 31, 2008

Article #	Account	Balances carried forward	Budgeted amounts		Actual	Variance positive (negative)	Balances carried forward
			Original	Final			
Expenditures:							
General government:							
10	Elected officials	\$ -	117,414	117,414	114,347	3,067	-
11	General administration:						
	Administration	-	338,866	338,866	315,181	23,685	3,351
	Assessing	-	82,684	82,684	76,980	5,704	-
	Public information	-	9,700	9,700	8,666	1,034	-
11	Tax collector's office	-	33,992	33,992	27,424	6,568	-
11	Town clerk's office	-	51,165	51,165	37,521	13,644	2,843
11	Code enforcement	-	105,773	105,773	85,983	19,790	-
11	Planning	5,000	94,570	99,570	64,567	35,003	23,520
11	Treasurer	-	1,450	1,450	1,360	90	-
11	Employee benefits	-	298,720	298,720	266,408	32,312	-
	Risk management	-	52,630	52,630	47,230	5,400	-
11	Committees and commissions	-	4,770	4,770	2,529	2,241	-
11	Operations and maintenance:						
	Municipal buildings and property	-	72,070	72,070	66,362	5,708	-
	Old town house and commons	-	4,000	4,000	3,973	27	-
	Town dock	-	3,800	3,800	2,470	1,330	-
	Mackerel cove / town landings	3,000	20,000	23,000	18,499	4,501	-
Total general government		8,000	1,291,604	1,299,604	1,139,500	160,104	29,714
Public works:							
12	Public works:						
	Snow removal and street signs	-	426,500	426,500	445,313	(18,813)	-
	Maintenance	44,206	18,000	62,206	58,129	4,077	-
	Road, Street Signs	-	4,000	4,000	2,086	1,914	-
12	Recycling and transfer station	-	384,380	384,380	357,500	26,880	-
Total public works		44,206	832,880	877,086	863,028	14,058	-
Protection and safety:							
13	Emergency services	5,710	202,600	208,310	201,517	6,793	5,710
19	Dry hydrant development	14,982	10,000	24,982	13,292	11,690	11,690
14	Law enforcement and communication	-	338,495	338,495	331,932	6,563	-
14	Shellfish conservation enforcement	-	186,154	186,154	184,945	1,209	-
13	New Meadows River Watershed	-	1,000	1,000	1,000	-	-
13	Street lighting	-	31,000	31,000	27,577	3,423	-
13	Harbor management	-	40,633	40,633	35,722	4,911	-
13	Animal control	-	23,102	23,102	20,248	2,854	-
Total protection and safety		20,692	832,984	853,676	816,233	37,443	17,400
Health and welfare:							
15	Health and welfare	-	27,230	27,230	29,885	(2,655) *	-
Total health and welfare		-	27,230	27,230	29,885	(2,655)	-
Cultural and recreation:							
3	Curtis memorial library	-	113,538	113,538	113,538	-	-
16	Cultural and education programs	-	26,700	26,700	26,790	(90)	-
16	Harpswell community broadcasting	-	35,000	35,000	35,000	-	-
16	Recreation - general	-	33,545	33,545	31,608	1,937	-
Total cultural and recreation		-	208,783	208,783	206,936	1,847	-

TOWN OF HARPSWELL, MAINE
General Fund
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance
Budget and Actual (Budgetary Basis of Accounting), Continued
For the year ended December 31, 2008

For the year ended December 31, 2005							
Article #	Account	Balances	Budgeted amounts		Actual	Variance positive (negative)	Balances carried forward
		carried forward	Original	Final			
Expenditures, continued:							
19	A. Dennis Moore Recycling / Transfer St.	88,628	16,000	104,628	19,850	84,778	84,778
Other capital / carryovers:							
CF	OBI fire capital	30	-	30	-	30	30
CF	Land acquisition	1,279	-	1,279	-	1,279	1,279
CF	Vehicle replacement	15,500	-	15,500	15,000	500	500
CF	Update of assessing records	20,235	-	20,235	-	20,235	20,235
19	HCBC digital conversion	20,000	5,000	25,000	-	25,000	25,000
CF	Cemetery restoration	950	-	950	-	950	950
CF	Emergency communication equipment	5,100	-	5,100	-	5,100	5,100
24	Codes vehicle	-	14,000	14,000	14,000	-	-
19	Vehicle equipment	-	3,000	3,000	-	3,000	3,000
19	Boat and motor replacement	14,000	6,000	20,000	-	20,000	20,000
19	Voting machines	9,300	3,000	12,300	-	12,300	12,300
19	Copier	4,000	1,500	5,500	5,500	-	-
19	Generator replacement	8,000	13,000	21,000	-	21,000	21,000
19	T/O Improvements	-	6,000	6,000	-	6,000	6,000
CF	Cribstone Bridge	35,000	-	35,000	-	35,000	35,000
31	Town incorp. planning	2,000	2,000	4,000	3,376	624	-
CF	Legislative agent	4,000	-	4,000	-	4,000	4,000
CF	Water septic study	20,431	-	20,431	18,822	1,609	1,609
CF	Economic development	5,000	-	5,000	1,238	3,762	3,762
CF	Town landing signage	2,453	-	2,453	180	2,273	2,273
CF	Self insurance reserve	3,875	-	3,875	132	3,743	3,743
CF	Emergency service consult.	-	30,102	30,102	18,681	11,421	11,421
CF	Handicap access vault	-	2,599	2,599	-	2,599	2,599
25	HIS playground	-	5,000	5,000	5,000	-	-
30	New front door	-	5,000	5,000	3,251	1,749	-
39	Heating assistance	-	10,000	10,000	5,960	4,040	4,040
17	Video filming	-	5,000	5,000	1,159	3,841	-
CF	GIS	1,476	-	1,476	-	1,476	1,476
CF	Marine hazards	18,522	-	18,522	-	18,522	18,522
CF	Failed septic systems	14,272	-	14,272	-	14,272	14,272
CF	Mitchell field - hazard materials removal	12,727	-	12,727	6,372	6,355	6,355
CF	Mitchell field - deeds	1,500	-	1,500	-	1,500	1,500
CF	Mitchell field - legal	5,000	-	5,000	-	5,000	5,000
CF	Mitchell field - gifts	50	796	846	846	-	-
CF	Mitchell field - annual maintenance reserve	3,256	-	3,256	-	3,256	3,256
21	Mitchell field - all other	-	6,000	6,000	5,497	503	-
Total capital and special projects		316,584	133,997	450,581	124,864	325,717	319,000
20	Debt service	-	627,938	627,938	627,245	693	-
CF	Contingency	54,536	-	54,536	-	54,536	51,881
Total budgeted expenditures		444,018	3,955,416	4,399,434	3,807,691	591,743	417,995
Other expenditures:							
	Educational appropriation	-	7,445,553	7,445,553	7,445,553	-	-
	County tax	-	1,031,777	1,031,777	1,031,777	-	-
	Overlay / abatements	-	154,077	154,077	9,209	144,868	-
Total other expenditures		-	8,631,407	8,631,407	8,486,539	144,868	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures		(444,018)	(68,336)	(512,354)	289,280	801,634	(417,995)
Other financing sources (uses):							
28	Proceeds from long term debt	-	500,000	500,000	500,000	-	-
26	Transfer to Capital Projects - road projects	-	(240,000)	(240,000)	(240,000)	-	-
28	Transfer to Capital Projects - emergency vehicl	-	(500,000)	(500,000)	(500,000)	-	-
	Transfer from Grant fund - various admin and n	-	-	-	16,260	16,260	-
	Transfer from Grant fund - Emer services study	-	30,102	30,102	30,102	-	-
	Transfer from Grant fund - Administrative costs	-	2,599	2,599	2,599	-	-
16	Transfer to Recreation fund - programs	-	(7,250)	(7,250)	(7,250)	-	-
39	Use of undesign. fund balance - budget	-	255,000	255,000	-	(255,000)	-
	Use of undesign. fund balance - loan repayer	-	27,885	27,885	-	(27,885)	-
	Use of carryforward balances	444,018	-	444,018	-	(444,018)	-
Total other financing sources (uses)		444,018	68,336	512,354	(198,289)	(710,643)	-
Net change in fund balance		-	-	-	90,991	90,991	(417,995)
Fund balance, beginning of year as restated					3,746,604		
Fund balance, end of year				\$	3,837,595		

* Contingency transfer approved by Selectmen to cover health and welfare overage (\$2,655)

TOWN OF HARPSWELL, MAINE
Other Nonmajor Governmental Funds
Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
For the year ended December 31, 2008

	Special Revenues		Capital Projects		Totals
	Restricted Grants	Recreation	Emergency Vehicle	Road Projects	
Revenues:					
Intergovernmental	\$ 120,961	-	-	-	120,961
Interest earned	-	-	8,242	-	8,242
Charges for services	-	54,329	-	-	54,329
Total revenues	120,961	54,329	8,242	-	183,532
Expenditures:					
For designated purpose	117,206	62,200	-	-	179,406
Expenditures from carryover funds	-	550	-	-	550
2008 capital roads project	-	-	-	229,078	229,078
Total expenditures	117,206	62,750	-	229,078	409,034
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	3,755	(8,421)	8,242	(229,078)	(225,502)
Other financing sources (uses):					
Transfers (to) from general fund	(48,961)	7,250	500,000	240,000	698,289
Total other financing sources (uses)	(48,961)	7,250	500,000	240,000	698,289
Net change in fund balances	(45,206)	(1,171)	508,242	10,922	472,787
Fund balances, beginning of year	59,531	25,762	140,277	137,840	363,410
Fund balances, end of year	\$ 14,325	24,591	648,519	148,762	836,197

Harpswell 2009 Proposed Summary Budget

	2008 Appropriations	2009 Proposed	% Change
General Government	\$1,291,603	\$1,182,844	-8.8%
Public Works	\$832,880	\$869,297	4.4%
Protection & Safety	\$821,984	\$842,631	2.5%
Health & Welfare	\$27,230	\$31,730	16.5%
Cultural & Recreational	\$226,033	\$230,795	2.1%
Mitchell Field	\$6,000	\$13,594	126.5%
Capital Roads	\$240,000	0	
Other Capital	\$63,500	\$37,000	-41.7%
Special Projects	\$26,000	\$50,839	95.5%
Emergency Vehicles	0	\$140,000	
Debt Service	<u>\$600,053</u>	<u>\$650,155</u>	8.3%
Total (LD 1 Compliant)	\$4,141,283	\$4,048,885	-2.2%

Consider Increasing LD 1 Limit for Additional Items:

Cribstone Bridge	\$15,000
Carrying Place	\$5,000
Orr's Island Library Reserve	\$10,000
Hamilton Place/Workforce Housing	\$50,000
Wind Turbine	<u>\$50,000</u>
	\$130,000

The above Table compares the 2008 Annual Town Meeting Raised and Appropriated amounts with the proposed 2009 amounts in the Annual Town Meeting Warrant of March 14. In addition, a \$650,000 bond for capital road improvements primarily to Ash Point Road is being proposed in 2009 to be re-paid over a 10-year period.

Amounts appropriated are funded by a combination of sources: property taxes, non-property tax revenues, State payments including the homestead exemption, and general fund balance. Amounts appropriated do not directly determine the amount of property taxes to be raised.

The Cumberland County tax is set by the County Commissioners. In 2009 this tax is anticipated to increase by 5.3% from \$1,031,777 to \$1,086,760. This figure is not reflected above.

The SAD # 75 Budget is developed independently. The School Board holds hearings as it is developing its budget and then votes on a budget proposal. Voters in all four towns in the District vote on the school budget by secret ballot, which usually occurs in June. The SAD # 75 Budget is not shown above. (\$7,445,553 was paid to M.S.A.D. #75 in 2008).

**WARRANT
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
HARPSWELL, MAINE
MARCH 14, 2009**

Cumberland, s.s.

State of Maine

To any Constable or Resident of the Town of Harpswell:

You are hereby required in the name of the State of Maine to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Harpswell qualified to vote in Town affairs to assemble at Harpswell Islands School, Route 24, Harpswell, Maine on Saturday the fourteenth day of March, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. of said day, to act on Articles 1 and 2. The business meeting to act on Article 3 and others that follow will begin at noon.

Art. 1 — To choose a Moderator to preside at said meeting.
(POLLS WILL OPEN AS SOON AS ARTICLE ONE HAS BEEN ACTED UPON AND WILL CLOSE AT 5:00 P.M.)

Art. 2 — To choose by secret ballot one Selectman, who shall be an Assessor and Overseer of the Poor, for a three-year term; one Road Commissioner for a three-year term, and one M.S.A.D. # 75 Director for a three-year term.

Art. 3 — Shall an Ordinance entitled “2009 Amendments to the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance, Basic Land Use Ordinance and Definitions Addendum to bring the Town’s land use ordinances into compliance with State of Maine minimum shoreland zoning requirements prior to the July 1, 2009 deadline” be enacted?

[The proposed ordinance amendments are available for review and inspection at the Town Clerk’s Office, the Planning Office, and will also be available at the Town Meeting.]

Recommended by Selectmen

Art. 4 — To see if the Town will vote to adopt the Harpswell Open Space Plan as proposed by the Harpswell Conservation Commission.

[The proposed Open Space Plan is available for review and inspection at the Town Clerk’s Office, the Planning Office, and will also be available at the Town Meeting.]

Recommended by Selectmen

Art. 5 — Shall an Ordinance entitled “2009 Amendments to the Official Shoreland Zoning Map of the Town of Harpswell to Change the Zoning District Designation of Properties currently identified as Tax Map 17, Lot 36 and Tax Map 17, Lot 38 from Shoreland Residential to Shoreland Business” be enacted?

[The proposed Official Shoreland Zoning Map of the Town of Harpswell, dated March 14, 2009 and prepared by the Harpswell Planning Office is available for review and inspection at the Town Clerk’s Office, the Town Planning Office and will also be available at the Town Meeting.]

Recommended by Selectmen

Art. 6 — Shall an Ordinance entitled “2009 Amendments to the Ordinance for the Recall of Elected Officials of the Town of Harpswell” be enacted?

[Text not available at time of printing].

Art. 7 — Shall an Ordinance entitled “2009 Amendments to the Harpswell Shellfish Ordinance” be enacted?

[Text not available at time of printing].

Art. 8 — Shall an Ordinance entitled “2009 Amendments to the Town of Harpswell Harbor and Waterfront Ordinance” be enacted?

The Town of Harpswell Harbor and Waterfront Ordinance shall be amended as follows (deletions are ~~struck out~~ additions are underlined):

5.1 Registration

5.1.1 All moorings located below low water line waters of Harpswell shall be registered with the Town Clerk before May 1 of each year. For renewal moorings re-registered after May 1, ~~the mooring fee shall be doubled~~ a per mooring late fee shall be assessed as determined by the Board of Selectmen.

*Recommended by Selectmen Henderson and Wallace
Not Recommended by Selectman Haible*

Art. 9 — To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the elected officials salaries and travel reimbursement as follows, for which Tax Collector and Town Clerk are full-time positions, and when the Selectmen fill a vacancy in any elected position, they are authorized to establish the annual payment, at their discretion, but in no case in an amount less than three-quarters of the amount in this Article:

	2009	2008
Selectman, Chair	\$6,000	\$6,000
Selectman	6,000	6,000
Selectman	6,000	6,000
Tax Collector	40,930	39,737
Town Clerk*	38,808	37,677
Treasurer	10,000	10,000
Road Commissioner	6,000	6,000
Travel Reimbursement	<u>4,000</u>	<u>6,000</u>
	\$117,738	\$117,414

**Town Clerk is also Registrar of Voters and receives \$2,122 which is budgeted in Article 10.*

*\$117,738 Recommended by Selectmen
\$117,738 Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

Art. 10 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$373,460 for General Administration.

	2009	2008
Administration & Registrar	\$273,360	\$274,920
Public Information	9,500	9,700
Legal	40,000	48,000
Risk Management/Insurance	<u>50,600</u>	<u>52,630</u>
	\$373,460	\$385,250

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

Art. 11 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$17,338 for memberships as follows:

	2009	2008
Maine Municipal Association	\$7,704	\$7,337
Midcoast Council of Business Development & Planning	7,859	7,869
New Meadows River Watershed	1,000	1,000
Southern Midcoast Chamber of Commerce	750	750
Harpwell Business Association	<u>25</u>	<u>0</u>
	\$17,338	\$16,956

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

<i>Art. 12 –17 The Moderator may entertain a motion to approve Articles 12-17 as recommended by Selectmen unless a voter requests a specific article be set aside for individual consideration.</i>

Art. 12 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$79,972 for the Assessing Office. (\$82,684 raised and appropriated in 2008)

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

Art. 13 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$33,065 for the Tax Collector's Office. (\$33,992 raised and appropriated in 2008)

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

Art. 14 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$49,700 for the Town Clerk's Office. (\$51,165 raised and appropriated in 2008)

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

Art. 15 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,750 for the Treasurer's Office. (\$1,450 raised and appropriated in 2008)

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

Art. 16 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$87,598 for the Code Enforcement Office. (\$105,773 raised and appropriated in 2008)

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

Art. 17 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$70,920 for the Planning Office. (\$94,570 raised and appropriated in 2008)

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

Art. 18 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$258,653 for Employee Benefits.

	2009	2008
Retirement	\$39,324	\$44,297
Health Insurance	156,060	186,984
Social Sec/Medicare	60,989	65,158
Disability	<u>2,280</u>	<u>2,280</u>
	\$258,653	\$298,719

*Recommended by Selectmen Haible and Henderson, Recusal by Selectman Wallace
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

Art. 19 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,650 for Boards and Committees. (\$4,770 raised and appropriated in 2008)

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

Art. 20 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$88,000 for the maintenance and operations of Town facilities, properties and vehicles.

	2009	2008
Buildings, property & vehicles	\$74,250	\$72,070
Old Town House & Commons	4,500	4,000
Town Dock	3,250	3,800
Town Landings	<u>6,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>
	\$88,000	\$99,870

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

Art. 21 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$491,500 for Roads.

	2009	2008
Snow Removal	439,000	\$426,500
Road Maintenance	50,000	18,000*
Road/Street Signs	<u>2,500</u>	<u>4,000</u>
	\$491,500	\$448,500

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

**\$44,206 was carried forward from 2007 making a total of \$62,206 available in 2008.*

- Art. 22 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$377,797 for Operations and Personnel at the Recycling Center & Transfer Station.**
(\$384,380 raised and appropriated in 2008)

*Recommended by Selectmen Haible and Henderson, Recusal by Selectman Wallace
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

- Art. 23 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$180,000 for the operating and capital expenses of three fire and rescue providers as follows:**

	2009	2008
Harpswell Neck Fire and Rescue	\$60,000	\$60,000
Orr's-Bailey Island Fire and Rescue	60,000	60,000
Cundy's Harbor Volunteer Fire	<u>60,000</u>	<u>60,000</u>
	\$180,000	\$180,000

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

- Art. 24 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$23,500 for Emergency Services and Management.**

	2009	2008
ALS, Phone & Central Communications	18,000	17,500
Fire Warden	2,000	2,000
Emergency Management	<u>3,500</u>	<u>3,100</u>
	\$23,500	\$22,600

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

- Art. 25 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$28,500 for Street Lighting.** (\$31,000 raised and appropriated in 2008)

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

- Art. 26 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$38,870 for Harbor Management.** (\$40,633 raised and appropriated in 2008)

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

- Art. 27 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$23,419 for Animal Control.** (\$23,102 raised and appropriated in 2008)

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

Art. 28 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$548,342 and appropriate \$3,000 from the Vehicle Equipment Reserve Account for Law Enforcement, Communications Services and Shellfish Conservation.

	2009	2008
General Law Enforcement	\$328,686	\$312,248
Communications	28,657	26,247
Shellfish Conservation: Marine Patrol	188,999	184,154
Shellfish Conservation: Boat Operations	<u>2,000</u>	<u>2,000</u>
	\$548,342	\$524,649

Recommended by Selectmen

Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee

Art. 29 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$31,730 for General Assistance and Health and Welfare Agencies as follows:

	2009	2008
General Assistance	\$16,250	\$12,250
Community Health & Nursing	2,000	2,000
Independence Association	1,500	1,500
Midcoast Maine Community Action	730	730
Coastal Transportation	1,000	1,000
People Plus	1,500	1,500
Senior Spectrum	1,500	1,500
Hospice	1,500	1,500
Family Crisis Shelter	500	500
Sexual Assault Response	250	250
Tedford Shelter	1,000	1,000
Big Brothers/Big Sisters	500	500
Respite	1,000	1,000
Hunger Prevention	2,000	2,000
Day One	250	0
Family Focus	<u>250</u>	<u>0</u>
	\$31,730	\$27,230

Recommended by Selectmen

Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee

Art. 30 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,500 for the Cultural purposes as follows:

	2009	2008
Orr's Island Library	\$13,000	\$11,500
Cundy's Harbor Library	13,800	11,500
Harpswell Historical Society	2,000	2,000
Pejepscot Historical Society	500	500
Memorial Observances	<u>1,200</u>	<u>1,200</u>
	\$30,500	\$26,700

Recommended by Selectmen

Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee

Art. 31 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$118,881 for Curtis Memorial Library in Brunswick. (\$113,538 raised and appropriated in 2008; \$118,881 requested by Curtis Memorial Library in 2009)

*\$116,000 Recommended by Selectmen Haible and Henderson
Not Recommended by Selectman Wallace
\$116,000 Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

Art. 32 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$36,500 Harpswell Community Broadcasting. (\$35,000 raised and appropriated in 2008)

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

Art. 33 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$30,545 for the Recreation Department. (\$33,545 raised and appropriated in 2008)

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

Art. 34 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$7,250 for Recreation Programs, and authorize the Board of Selectmen to appropriate revenue generated by recreation programs for recreational purposes and revenue generated by advertising for operating expenses and capital improvement of Trufant-Summerton Field. (\$7,250 raised and appropriated in 2008)

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

Art. 35 — To see if the Town will vote to establish the Joyce Brown Swim Fund reserve account to provide scholarships for the Summer Swim Program and to accept donations to the fund.

Recommended by Selectmen

Art. 36 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for the Harpswell Heating Assistance reserve account to be used for heating assistance and improving home energy efficiency. (\$10,000 raised and appropriated in 2008).

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

Art. 37 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$37,000 for capital reserve accounts as follows:

	2009	2008
Boat & Motor Replacement	\$6,000	\$6,000
Voting Machines	0	3,000
HCBC Digital Conversion	0	5,000
Vehicle Replacement	10,000	0
Copier Replacement	0	1,500
Generator Replacement	8,000	13,000

Dry Hydrant	4,000	10,000
Vehicle Equipment Replacement	3,000	3,000
Town Office Improvements	6,000	6,000
Recycling/Transfer Station	<u>0</u>	<u>16,000</u>
	\$37,000	\$63,500

Recommended by Selectmen

Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee

- Art. 38 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$140,000 and appropriate \$11,421 of remaining funds from the Emergency Services Study account for the purchase of certain emergency services vehicles, as determined appropriate by the Board of Selectmen, and to be owned by the Town, with such amounts to be held in the Emergency Vehicle Capital Account (an interest- bearing dedicated reserve account) until such time as the vehicles are purchased, and to authorize the vehicles to be leased to the local fire departments that have an Emergency Services Agreement with Town on such lease terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deems to be in the best interest of the Town.**

Recommended by Selectmen

Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee

- Art. 39 — To see if the Town will vote to appropriate \$148,762 of remaining 2008 capital reserve road funds and authorize the issuance of up to \$650,000 in general obligation bonds or notes for capital road improvements primarily to Ash Point Road with the dates, maturities, denominations, interest rate(s) and other details of the bonds to be determined by the Board of Selectmen.**

Recommended by Selectmen

Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee

Total estimated debt service of this bond issue is \$835,000, of which principal is \$650,000 and estimated interest at 4.73% over 10 years is \$185,000.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT – TOWN OF HARPSWELL

The issuance of bonds by the Town of Harpswell (the “Town”) is one of the ways in which the Town borrows money for certain purposes. The following is a summary of the bonded indebtedness of the Town as of the date of this Town Meeting:

* Bonds Now Outstanding and Unpaid	\$ 1,886,667
* Interest to be Repaid on Outstanding Bonds	\$ 266,379
* Total to be Repaid on Bonds Outstanding	\$ 2,153,046
 * Additional Bonds Authorized But Not Yet Issued	 \$ 90,000
* Potential New Interest on Bonds Not Yet Issued	\$ 12,200
 * Total Additional Bonds (now proposed) to be Issued if Approved by Voters	 \$ 650,000
* Estimate of Potential New Interest	\$ 185,000
* Total Additional Bonds To Be Issued and Estimated Interest if Approved by Voters	\$ 835,000

When money is borrowed by issuing bonds, the Town must repay not only the principal amount of the bonds but also interest on the bonds. The amount of interest to be paid will vary depending upon the rate of interest and the years to maturity at the time of issue. The validity of the bonds and of the voters' ratification of the bonds may not be affected by any errors in the estimates made of the costs involved, including varying interest rates, the estimated cost of interest on the bond amount to be issued, and the total cost of principal and interest to be paid at maturity.

Marguerite M. Kelly, Town Treasurer

- Art. 40 — To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$677,072 and raise \$650,155 for Debt Service (with the remainder of the Debt Service, \$26,917 to be funded by a loan repayment by Harpswell Neck Fire & Rescue, Inc.).**

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

- Art. 41 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$13,594 for maintenance and operations at Mitchell Field including pier clean-up and road improvements.**

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

- Art. 42 — To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept a bench from Peter and Deborah White for Mitchell Field and to accept other benches with or without inscription for placement on Town-owned properties pursuant to guidelines to be adopted by the Board of Selectmen.**

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

- Art. 43 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,839 for upgrading its municipal accounting software.**

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

- Art. 44 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 and appropriate \$15,000 from the Marine Hazards Account for improvements to the Town Dock at Pott's Point.**

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

- Art. 45 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for developing performance and zoning standards at Mitchell Field.**

*Recommended by Selectmen
Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee*

Art. 46 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to be added to the previously appropriated sum of \$35,000 approved on November 6, 2007, which shall be used by the Maine Department of Transportation for certain additional work and materials necessary to prepare for the possible relocation of the public utilities at the Cribstone Bridge from overhead to under the sidewalk, which relocation work would require subsequent Town Meeting approval.

Recommended by Selectmen

Not Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee

Art. 47 — To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to request that the Maine State Legislature review its 1998 decision to change the northern boundary of Harpswell Neck as it abuts the Town of Brunswick, in light of new evidence and research, and to make a final determination on that boundary.

Recommended by Selectmen Haible and Wallace

Not Recommended by Selectman Henderson

Article 48 may be passed over if Article 47 is defeated.

Art. 48 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for expenses related to the boundary line of Harpswell Neck as it abuts the Town of Brunswick.

Recommended by Selectman Haible

Not Recommended by Selectmen Henderson and Wallace

Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee

Art. 49 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 for an expansion of the Orr's Island Library, such appropriation to be held in a reserve account until the Library receives all necessary permits and approvals for the project.

Recommended by Selectmen

Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee

Art. 50 — To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for Hamilton Place, a workforce housing subdivision being developed by the Greater Brunswick Housing Corporation, a Maine non-profit housing corporation, such funds to be held in a reserve account by the Town and to be expended only after the GBHC certifies to the Board of Selectmen that a majority of the lots in the subdivision have sold.

Recommended by Selectmen

Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee

Art. 51 — To see what sum the Town will vote to raise and appropriate not to exceed \$50,000 to be used as the Town's share to match grants and/or other funding sources for the purchase, installation, and other related costs associated with erecting and operating a 15kw wind turbine on Town-owned property to be connected to the Town Office Building.

\$25,000 Recommended by Selectman Henderson

\$5,000 Recommended by Selectman Haible

Not Recommended by Selectman Wallace

Not Recommended by Budget Advisory Committee

Art. 52 – 58 The Moderator may entertain a motion to approve Articles 52-58 as recommended by Selectmen unless a voter requests a specific article be set aside for individual consideration.

Art. 52 — To see if the Town will vote to fix the date of September 15, 2009 as the date when the first one-half of taxes shall be due and payable, with interest on the first installment to start after that date, and the date of December 15, 2009 as the date when the second one-half of taxes are due and payable, with interest on the second installment to start after that date, and to see if the Town will vote to charge a 8% rate of interest on unpaid taxes.

Recommended by Selectmen

Art. 53 — To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Tax Collector to accept prepayment of taxes not yet committed, as a services to our taxpayers. Any excess prepaid in over the amount finally committed shall be repaid without interest. (36 M.R.S.A. § 506). (Excess payment of \$10.00 or less may be credited to 2010 taxes).

Recommended by Selectmen

Art. 54 — To see if the Town will vote to set the interest rate to be paid by the Town on abated taxes at 4% for the period of assessment and to authorize such interest paid or abatements granted to be appropriated from overlay funds or, if necessary, from undesignated fund balance.

Recommended by Selectmen

Art. 55 — To see if the Town will vote to authorize and direct the Board of Selectmen, at its discretion, to sell by sealed bid or public auction and to convey by quit-claim deed any real estate acquired from tax sources by the Town, or to convey the property to the prior owner upon payment in full of all taxes, interest and charges incurred by the Town. The Board of Selectmen reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Recommended by Selectmen

Art. 56 — To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept conditional and unconditional gifts of money and to appropriate such funds for any purpose for which the Town has appropriated funds.

Recommended by Selectmen

Art. 57 — To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the budgeted amount in each budget category of the 2009 budget from January 1, 2010 to the 2010 Annual Town Meeting.

Recommended by Selectmen

Art. 58 — To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell by public bid or other competitive process any and all personal property deemed excess by the Board of Selectmen pursuant to such restrictions as the Board of Selectmen may impose.

Recommended by Selectmen

Art. 59 — To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to appropriate amounts not to exceed \$150,000 from Municipal Revenue Sharing, \$1,460,000 from non-property tax revenue sources, and \$285,000 of undesignated fund balance to reduce the tax commitment.

Recommended by Selectmen

Article 60 may be passed over if the levy limit is not exceeded by earlier decisions of the voters.

Art. 60 — To see if the Town will vote by written ballot to increase the property tax levy limit of \$2,103,780 established for Harpswell by State law in the event that the municipal budget approved under the preceding articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than that property tax levy limit.

The Selectmen hereby give notice that the Registrar of Voters will be available at the Town office during regular business hours for the entire week preceding said meeting to receive applications of persons claiming the right to vote at said meeting and to make corrections to the list of voters. Registrations will be accepted at the meeting.

SPECIMEN BALLOT

**OFFICIAL BALLOT
MUNICIPAL ELECTION
TOWN OF HARPSWELL
MARCH 14, 2009**

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

- A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the LEFT of your choice (s) like this: ●
- B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each office.
- C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate's name on the line provided and completely fill in the OVAL.

**FOR SELECTMAN
ASSESSOR AND
OVERSEER OF THE POOR**

Vote for ONE 3-Year Term

- ☐ **CHIPMAN, DAVID I.**
HARPSWELL NECK
- ☐ **MULTER, ELINOR**
ORR'S ISLAND
- ☐

(Write-in)

**FOR DISTRICT DIRECTOR OF
M.S.A.D. NO. 75**

Vote for ONE 3-Year Term

- ☐ **ROGERS, JOANNE**
BAILEY ISLAND
- ☐

(Write-in)

**FOR ROAD
COMMISSIONER**

Vote for ONE 3-Year Term

- ☐ **BAKER, F. MARTIN**
ORR'S ISLAND
- ☐ **VENARD, ROBERT E.**
GREAT ISLAND
- ☐

(Write-in)